A 20-year-old woman presented with subacute progressive lower extremity weakness and spasticity. Examination findings were consistent with Brown-Sequard syndrome. Thoracic spine MRI/magnetic resonance angiography showed an intramedullary mass (figure 1). During gross total resection, the mass had a pearsesent appearance, while histopathologic examination was consistent with epidermoid cyst (figure 2).

Spinal epidermoid cysts comprise 0.5%–1% of all spinal tumors, with congenital epidermoid tumors manifesting between the second and fourth decades, rarely intramedullary.1 Because of the signal intensity similar to that of CSF, they are often misdiagnosed as other cystic...
tumors. Treatment is surgical excision with recurrence rate inversely proportional to resection magnitude.  

**Author contributions**

Study concept and design: Dr. Coon, T.D. Singh. Acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of images: T.D. Singh, Dr. Swanson, Dr. Burrows, Dr. Clarke, Dr. Shah, F. Ali, and Dr. Coon. Drafting of the manuscript: T.D. Singh, Dr. Coon. Study supervision: Dr. Coon. Critical revision of the manuscript: T.D. Singh, Dr. Swanson, Dr. Burrows, Dr. Clarke, Dr. Shah, F. Ali, Dr. Coon.

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The authors report no disclosures relevant to the manuscript. Go to Neurology.org/N for full disclosures.

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Teaching NeuroImages: Not a typical spinal mass
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