Teaching NeuroImages: Spinal cord infarct due to fibrocartilaginous embolism in an adolescent

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Figure

A 15-year-old healthy, active girl presented with acute bilateral upper extremity tingling and hand weakness while playing golf; within several hours, she developed numbness and weakness in all limbs. She denied preceding trauma and bowel/bladder incontinence. Examination showed global weakness, normal tone and reflexes, a C5 sensory level, and decreased light touch/temperature/pinprick in all limbs. Neuroimaging revealed an anterior spinal artery cervical cord infarct (figure), along with a degenerative disk, attributed to fibrocartilaginous embolism.

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Go to Neurology.org/N for full disclosures. Funding information and disclosures deemed relevant by the authors, if any, are provided at the end of the article.
Despite being a rare cause of spinal cord infarct, adult and pediatric neurologists should include fibrocartilaginous embolism as a possible etiology in patients with ischemic myelopathy.1,2

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### References

### Appendix Authors

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