

# **Images in medicine**

## Unusual cause of acute sciatica

#### Brahim Eljebbouri<sup>1,&</sup>, Ali Akhaddar<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Neurosurgery, Mohammed V Military Teaching Hospital, University of King Mohammed V Souissi, Maroc

<sup>&</sup>Corresponding author: Brahim Eljebbouri, Department of Neurosurgery, Mohammed V Military Teaching Hospital, University of King Mohammed V Souissi, Maroc

Key words: Acute sciatica, CT-scan, B acute lymphoblastic leukemia

Received: 15/03/2014 - Accepted: 24/05/2014 - Published: 26/05/2014

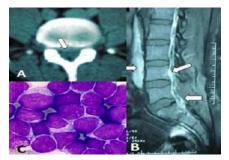
#### Pan African Medical Journal. 2014; 18:85 doi:10.11604/pamj.2014.18.85.4185

This article is available online at: http://www.panafrican-med-journal.com/content/article/18/85/full/

© Brahim Eljebbouri et al. The Pan African Medical Journal - ISSN 1937-8688. This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

### Image in medicine

This 32-year-old-man was admitted to the emergency department because of S1 left acute sciatica. An emergency CT-scan showed a highly probable appearance of herniated disc in L5-S1 level (A). The patient was operated without finding disc herniation, but an aspect of anterior and posterior epidural abscess compressing the dural sheath at L5-S1. Medullary MRI showed after the up and the down extention of disease process (B). Histological examination of samples found a B lymphoblastic leukemia (C). The patient died 3 weeks after because of systemic infection. After review of literature, it was never been described that the sciatic pain can be a mode of revelation of B acute lymphoblastic leukemia. Only two cases reported this mode of revelation but for lymphoma requiring a surgical intervention -as our case- firstly to relieve the patient by a radicular decompression and secondly for histological diagnosis.



**Figure 1**: (A) CT-scan showed highly probable appearance of herniated disc in L5-S1 level; (B) Medullary MRI showed after the up and the down extention of disease process; (C) Histological examination of samples found a B lymphoblastic leukemia

