

## A Challenging Case of Cervico-Thoraco-Lumbar Tandem Spinal Stenosis Manifested with Severe Spastic Paraplegia: A Surgical Dilemma and Outcome

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### INTRODUCTION:

Tandem spinal stenosis (TSS) is the occurrence of stenosis in at least two or more different regions of the spine. This case will describe the clinical presentation of an individual with cervico-thoraco-lumbar TSS (CTLTSS). This case is unique due to the severity of the lesion and the significant neurologic compromise and also demonstrates a dilemma in surgical strategy with regard to the patient factor and condition.

### REPORT:

A 53 years old lady with underlying diabetes melitus and hypertension presented with a history of bilateral lower limb weakness for the past 6 month. It began with intermittent back discomfort, an unsteady gait, and frequent falls, Later, her bilateral lower limb become spasm and stiff with hip and knee in flexion position. It associated with numbness over the bilateral lower limb. However, there was no bladder and bowel dysfunction. On examination, Her bilateral lower limb, muscle was hypertonia with hip and knee in flex position. Best sensory level at the T10 area and babinski was upgoing. Bilateral upper limb muscle strength was good. myelopathic sign was positive.

MRI was done and showed extensive multi regional spinal stenosis at the cervical, thoracic and lumbar region. Involving from C2 till C7 causing mild spinal canal stenosis. Two compression site at the thoracic area, T2/T3 and from T7 until T11 causing spinal canal stenosis and spinal cord oedema. Lumbar from L2 until S1 and at L4/L5 and L5/S1. (Figure 1)

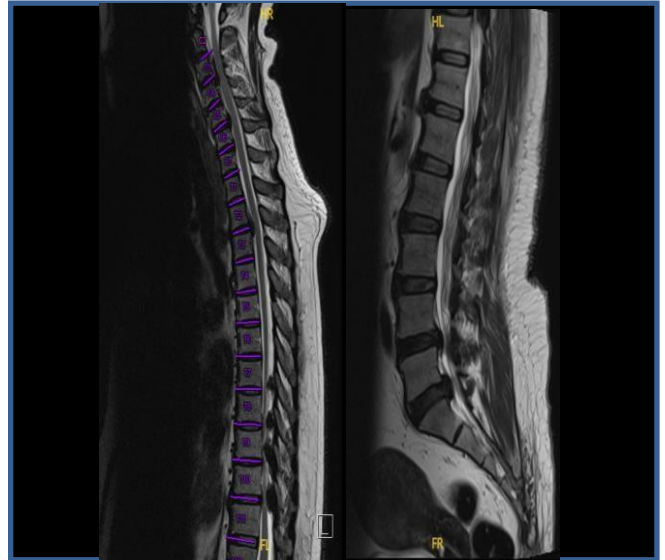


Figure 1:

### CONCLUSION:

Important surgical strategies is to identify the single spinal location with the most severe canal stenosis and match the patient's signs and symptoms to the site of spinal canal stenosis. In conclusion, identification of tandem spinal stenosis is critical as the initial step in therapy, and while there is no preferred technique, both staged and simultaneous operations have been demonstrated to be beneficial.

### REFERENCES:

1. Overlay SC. Tandem Spinal Stenosis: A Systematic Review. JBJS Rev. 2017 Sep;5(9):e2. doi: 10.2106/JBJS.RVW.17.00007. PMID: 28872572.