

Wedding Door Games Ends With Hemiplegia, A Case Report

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INTRODUCTION:

The Chinese marriage Wedding Door Games are played on the day of wedding ceremony by the groom and his entourage or groomsmen as they arrive at the bride's house. The gate crash is typically planned by the bridesmaids and these series of games have to be passed by the groom before being allowed to reach his bride. Here we bring a case report of how an accident happened at this 'games' which resulted in a mishap leading to hemiplegia.

CASE REPORT:

A 27 years old, Chinese gentleman attended a wedding ceremony. Prior to this event he was well with no known medical issues. At this wedding ceremony he was part of the groom's team for "wedding games". During one of the challenges, they were constructing somewhat of a human pyramid, this gentleman had slipped to a sitting position and there was at least the weight of one man exerting force onto his head forcing it into a hyper-flexed state.

After the incident, he was unable to move both his lower limbs (Power=0) and had reduced sensation from the chest downwards. Power was also reduced in both his hands. There were no other abnormalities realized by him at that time. He was promptly sent to the hospital.

The Xray cervical revealed a C7 burst fracture that was confirmed by the CT scan. On the CT Cervical, there was a C7 burst fracture with retropulsion fragment and left laminar fracture. MRI cervical was arranged. Findings were burst fracture of C7 with a retropulsed bony fragment causing spinal canal stenosis. It was causing compression of the spinal cord at this level with evidence of cord oedema.

Anterior Cervical Corpectomy and Fusion (ACCF) C6-T1 was done promptly within 36 hours of sustaining the injury. Post operatively he was admitted to ICU for observation. He had respiratory problems post operatively which required intubation twice. However, neurologically, there was improvement seen as

early as day 10 post operatively when he was able to show some toes flickering. At day 16 post ACDF, his improvement was quite apparent, there was grade 1 power over bilateral lower limbs over dermatome L2-S1. Power over bilateral lower limbs further improved to at least grade 3 by day 22 post operation.

DISCUSSIONS & CONCLUSION:

Quick and prompt identification of the spinal cord injury has to be done with patients with neurological deficit. Post operative results may be highly variable as it depends on how severe the spinal cord has been injured. However, prompt intervention has shown positive result in this case where neurological deficit improved and further improving rehabilitation outcome.

Wedding Gatecrashing Games, while harmless and entertaining most of the time are essential to the Chinese marriage customs. If not played with caution, it may lead to certain unwelcome harm as depicted from our case.

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