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Kleippel- Feil syndrome : Uncommon being common, is it really harmless in life?

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Background: Patient 1 in the Emergency Department was a 57years old Malay female who had a congenital neck condition had a fall backwards, dizziness and one sided body weakness. Thought to be Cervical fracture, the X ray imaging showed fusion of the spinous process of C2 C3 level. A CT Cervical done as neurological symtptoms were reducing and with persistent cervical tenderness, fusion of the cervical spinous process noted at said level. Patient 2 was a 38years old Malay female with an existing follow up appointment, has on off neck stiffness for the past three months. X ray of the cervical spine showed fusion of the C3-C4 vertebral body and the spinal process. Both patients studied were given analgesics, reassurance with rest and follow up date for monitoring in clinic.

Research question: Studying on if these two patients who presented at a different setting and scenario whereby the existing neck condition had given rise to their visit to the hospital or this studied condition is an incidental finding.

Design: Case series of two patients comparing severity of symptoms developed, both in different scenarios and the proper management required.

Results: Both patients discharged with follow up appointments to monitor progress as the symptoms were manageable with analgesics and adequate rest.

Discussion: A congenital neck condition albeit rare but is being observed more than once in less than six months. Usually an incidental finding from an imaging of patient that complaints of neck tenderness or mobility restriction likely after a trauma. Leading to diagnosis would be proper history taking and examination but confirmation would be imaging that can show us cervical pathologies such as fusion of cervical spinous process. Categorisation of this syndrome guides proper management depending on severity, ranges from painkiller along with rest to surgical intervention.

Fig. 1

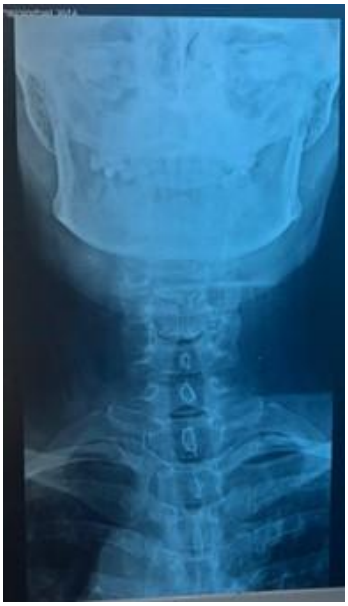

Fig. 2

Fig. 3

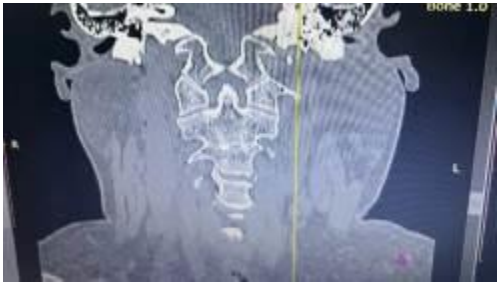

Fig. 4

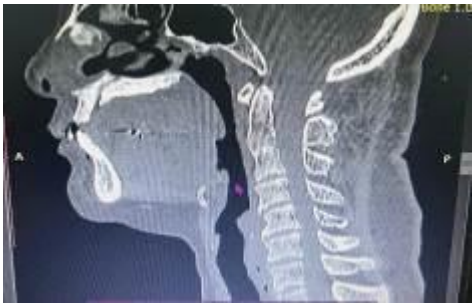

Fig. 5

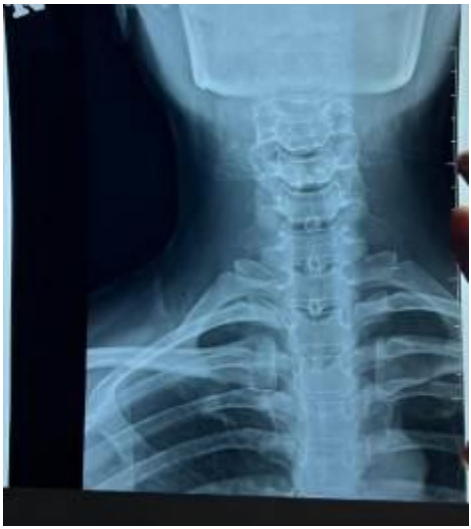

Fig. 6