

Trauma of the superior cervical spine in osteoporotic subjects: about a case

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Fractures of the upper cervical spine are excluded from the WHO definition of osteoporosis. A link between low-energy odontoid fractures and spinal osteoporosis has been reported.

A 65-year-old woman with a proven history of osteoporosis and insulin-dependent diabetes; Suffered for several months from neck pain complicated by progressive onset tetra paresis one month before hospitalization. Appeared after a simple fall from its height. Neuro-radiological examinations showed: posterior C2 dislocation and detachment of the odontoid process causing very severe cervico-occipital ductal stenosis. The patient was treated and then operated on by the posterior route, benefits from decompression and occipito cervical arthrodesis. Fractures of the upper cervical spine in osteoporotic subjects are frequent and serious with a reserved prognosis.

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