Imaging for Residents – Quiz

A Needle in a Haystack

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Section 1 - Quiz

Case

A 58-year-old, right-handed, female was seen in the outpatient clinic of our local university teaching hospital's physical medicine and rehabilitation department for the left lateral elbow pain evolving over the last year.

She was being followed for depression, rheumatoid arthritis, and was known for cervical spinal stenosis with a small zone of myelomalacia. Her medication included pregabalin, prednisone, and clopidogrel.

She described mechanical pain over her left lateral epicondyle. On observation, there was no swelling, deformities, or scars. Physical examination revealed a positive Mills and Cozen sign. There was no ROM limitation. She had pain on palpation over her left lateral epicondyle.

A diagnostic ultrasound using a high-resolution linear multifrequency (7–18Hz) probe on a Toshiba Aplio 500 ultrasound machine and a standardized elbow scanning protocol^[1] revealed signs of tendinosis of the common extensor tendon without radial collateral ligament tears and absence of elbow effusion. While scanning the brachialis muscle in transverse axis at the distal arm level, the image was obtained [Figure 1]. Can you find the needle in the haystack?

Declaration of patient consent

The authors certify that they have obtained all appropriate patient consent forms. In the form, the patient has given her consent for her images and other clinical information to be



Figure 1: On this transverse view of the ventral arm, approximately 3 cm proximal to the elbow joint, please localize and describe the anomaly

reported in the journal. The patient understands that her name and initials will not be published and due efforts will be made to conceal identity, but anonymity cannot be guaranteed.

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Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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