

Case 10

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The patient is a 61 year old male with a 15 month history of low back pain. Plain x-rays showed evidence of degenerative joint disease. A myelogram was performed showing total block at level L3. At surgery an intradural extramedullary encapsulated tumor was found arising from the filum terminale. The 2 cm lesion showed secondary attachment to a nerve root. The tumor was totally excised. Follow-up reveals that the patient died of a myocardial infarction 23 years after surgery. No clinical evidence of recurrence was noted.

Material submitted: One H & E and one unstained section.

Points for discussion: What is the differential diagnosis?