

Plexiform neurofibromas of the brachial plexuses

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A 47-year-old woman was admitted to our Neurology Department with a 13-year history of slowly progressing atrophy and weakness of the upper extremities, and numerous masses in the supraclavicular regions. MRI examination (figure) revealed plexiform neurofibromas of the brachial plexuses, confirmed by biopsy. No other signs of neurofibromatosis (NF) were seen.

This case represents mosaic localized NF1, which arises from somatic mutations occurring in a late-stage differentiated cell, with clinical manifestation restricted to a single region or organ.^{1,2}

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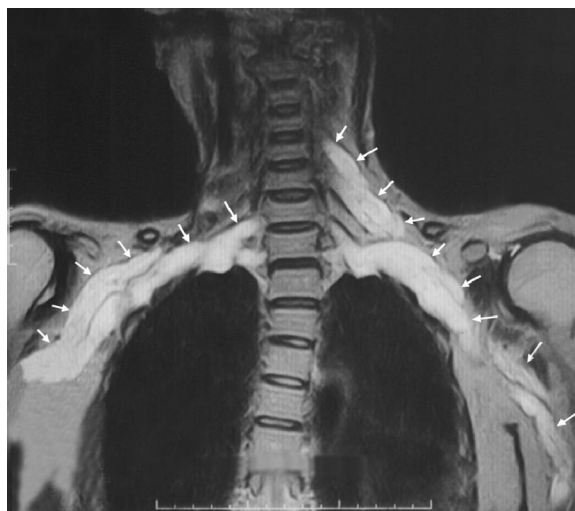


Figure. MR study (T2-weighted images) of the lower neck and upper chest region reveals large multiple masses involving nerve roots C5, C6, C8, Th1, and Th2 on the left and C8, Th1, and Th2 on the right as well as all parts of both brachial plexuses.

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