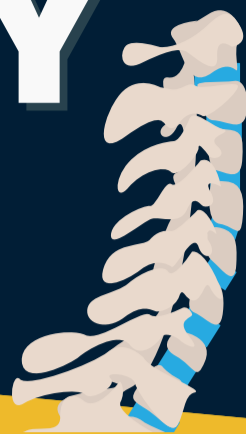


CERVICAL MYELOPATHY



1. What is it?

Cervical Myelopathy is a condition caused by compression of the spinal cord in the cervical spine, leading to a loss of function and sensation in the upper and lower extremities.



2. Clinical symptoms

- Neck pain and stiffness
- Weakness and clumsiness of the hands (70-90%)
- Loss of fine motor skills and dexterity (50-70%)
- Numbness, tingling, or burning sensations in the arms

3. Additional characteristics

- Loss of balance and coordination (40-60% of cases)
- Spastic gait, stiffness, and spasms (40-60% of cases)
- Loss of bowel or bladder control (10-20% of cases)

4. Risk factors

- >55
- Degenerative disc disease
- Osteoarthritis
- Trauma
- Tumors
- Infection
- Congenital spinal conditions



5. Management

- FCP to perform full neuro and UMN exam
- If suspected discuss with senior colleague & consider urgent MRI
- Depending on clinical symptoms and imaging, the condition can be managed conservatively or surgically. This decision will be made by neurosurgery consultant.

