

Case report: A case of fusion of thoracic vertebrae.

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Abstract:

Vertebral Column (spine) provide support to trunk, protect spinal cord and spinal nerves also provide attachment to muscles. vertebrae are integral part of vertebral column. Any abnormal fusion of vertebrae is known as vertebral synostosis or vertebral fusion or Block vertebrae. Vertebral fusion may be congenital or acquired. During an inspection of the osteology section of Anatomy Department, BJMC, Ahmedabad we came across one specimen of fusion between thoracic vertebrae. Specimen was analyzed and measurements were taken. There was complete fusion of bodies of 4 typical thoracic vertebrae, partial fusion of spinous processes and lamina. Superior and inferior facets are present but not fused. Intervertebral foramina are present. Recognition of fused thoracic vertebrae at an early age can prevent many disabilities and complications. The causes of fusion vertebrae may be congenital vertebral malformation, acquired causes like tuberculosis, juvenile rheumatoid arthritis and trauma.

Key Words: Fusion of thoracic vertebrae, Vertebral fusion, Vertebral synostosis.

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