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A case involving a giant aberrant Craniocervical Arteriovenous Malformation

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Background: Spinal Cord Arteriovenous Malformations (SCAVMs) comprise about 3-4% of primary intraspinal masses and are only rarely found external to the C2-C7 cervical vertebral foramena.

Case description: A 21-year-old female presented with neck pain, and a spastic quadriparesis of 1 year's duration. The cervical MRI and 3D CT angiograms documented an arteriovenous malformation (AVM)/dural artery venous fistula (dAVF) on the right fed by multiple arteries located in the C1-2 and C5-7 foramena intervertebralis. The patient underwent a laminectomy at C5-6 where large feeding arteries extending

through the foramena of C5-6, C6-7 were double-clipped. This allowed for devascularization of the AVM and facilitated resection, while preserving the aberrant vertebral artery. The patient was discharged within one week. Two months later, she was able to ambulate to the outpatient clinic.

Conclusion: Double clipping of the two main arterial feeders at the C5-C6 and C6-C7 levels of this aberrant cervical AVM was critical to facilitate resection, while carefully preserving the aberrant vertebral artery itself.

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