

Title:

Cervical Radiculopathy: Diagnosing a Pinched Nerve in the Neck

Word Count:

973

Summary:

A pinched nerve in the cervical spine can be a pain in the neck. It can also cause pain in the

Keywords:

cervical, radiculopathy, root, pinch, disk, herniated, slipped, emg, mri, myelogram, electromyogram, nerve

Article Body:

When a nerve is pinched in the neck's spinal column, pain can be such a prominent symptom that

By way of background, the spinal cord in the neck is connected to the nerves of the arms through

So when a cervical root is pinched, the pinch can cause not just pain, but--by blocking incoming

There are four pairs of cervical roots connecting the spinal cord to the arms' nerves and they

The pain often shoots into the arm on the affected side, and certain movements of head and neck

C5 impairment can send pain over the top of the shoulder in the first fourth of the arm which

C6 impairment can send pain as far as the thumb which is also where numbness occurs, when pres

C7 impairment can send pain as far as the middle fingers which is also where numbness occurs,

C8 impairment can send pain as far as the little finger which is also where numbness occurs, w

Having identified the typical syndromes, the next step is to understand what caused the pinch

How is cervical radiculopathy diagnosed? As described, the patient's history and examination a

Until the 1980s myelograms made the best pictures of the pinches occurring in the spine. To pe

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) was developed in the 1980s and created similar pictures but w

And how about treatment of this condition? Well, that's a story deserving its own essay. Stay

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