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### **Clinical Image**

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## **Skeletal deformities in a case of digitocutaneous dysplasia**

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#### Description

We present a case of a 2 year old female with digital fibrous lesions, dysmorphic facial features, stridor, sensorineural hearing loss, and scoliosis. The patient surgical history included digital amputations at the interphalangeal joint line bilaterally on the middle, ring, and little finger. Physical exam demonstrated knee and elbow flexion contractures and a left ankle varus contracture. Radiographic evaluation revealed several aggressive fibromas in the proximal femori and tibia (Figure 1) and a mild dextroconvex lumbar scoliosis (Figure 2) [1,2]. Biopsy of a digital lesions revealed a dermal spindle cell proliferation without atypia or necrosis, and perinuclear inclusions on H&E and trichrome stains. Comparative genomic hybridization and single nucleotide polymorphism genotyping revealed two adjacent duplications of the DMD gene (OMIM 400477): a duplication of 83 kb from the cytogenic band Xp21.2 to Xp 21.1 and a duplication of 555 kb within the cytogenetic band of Xp21.2.

The patient was subsequently followed in the orthopedic clinic, ENT clinic, and dermatology clinic. Due to large laryngeal tumor-like masses that caused progressive dyspnea, apnea, and stridor, the patient required a tracheostomy and dilatation of subglottic stenosis. Serial radiographs of the spine revealed progression of the curve with development of thoracolumbar junction kyphosis and lumbar lordosis. Due to the patients' age, underlying osteopenia, and complexity of her case, thoracolumbar sacral bracing and physical therapy were chosen as the preferred treatment. Our case demonstrates two teaching points. Firstly, biopsy and genetic testing in digitocutaneous dysplasia can be vague [3-5] and often times a clinical diagnosis based on presentation and radiography is required. Secondly, the decision not to operate in young infants with Digitocutaneous dysplasia may be right to reduce unnecessary surgeries. If aligned with the patient's and families goals, a definitive spinal fusion could always be sought out at skeletal maturity.

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**Figure 1:** Lower extremity radiographs demonstrating acetabular dysplasia, coxa valga, gracile appearing femori, and several circular and oval radiolucent areas with sclerotic margins in the proximal femoral diaphysis and proximal tibial metaphysis.



**Figure 2:** 2 view Spine films demonstrating a dextroconvex curvature of the thoracolumbar spine with a Cobb angle of 14.7° as measured from the superior endplate of T12 to the inferior endplate of L5. Exaggerated concavities to the back wall of L3-L5 can also be seen on the lateral.



**Figure 3:** 2 view Spine films demonstrating 7 years after initial presentation demonstrating a 41.9° dextroconvex curvature of the thoracolumbar spine. Thoracolumbar junction kyphosis and lumbar lordosis can be seen on the lateral.

Final diagnosis: Digitocutaneous dysplasia

#### Three differential diagnosis:

- 1. Metaphyseal Epiphyseal Dysplasia
- 2. Diastrophic Dysplasia
- 3. Kniest Dysplasia

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