

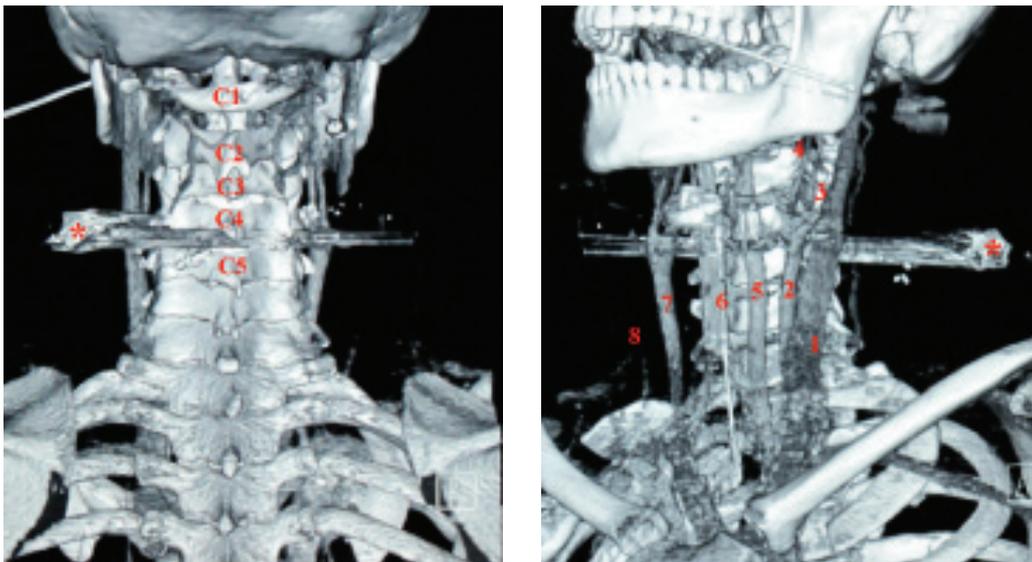
# Cervical gunshot wound: bullet trajectory on three-dimensional computed tomography scan

*Ferimento por arma de fogo em região cervical: trajetória da bala na tomografia computadorizada tri-dimensional*

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An 18-year-old man was admitted to the Emergency Unit shortly after having a gunshot wound in the neck. The patient developed an acute flaccid tetraplegia combined with areflexia and sphincter impairment. He was promptly intubated and immobilized with a cervical spine collar. Three-dimensional (3D) cervical computed tomography (CT) scan

showed the bullet trajectory with entrance on the right side and no exit on the left side (Figure). A C4-C5 bone fracture was observed, as well as right jugular vein thrombosis. All the greater cervical arteries were incredibly spared. Three-dimensional CT scan imaging techniques can be a useful tool for evaluating gunshot wounds of the cervical region<sup>1</sup>.



**Figure.** (1) left jugular vein, (2) left common carotid artery, (3) left external carotid artery, (4) left internal carotid artery, (5) nasogastric tube, (6) endotracheal tube, (7) right common carotid artery, (8) thrombosed right jugular vein.

## References

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