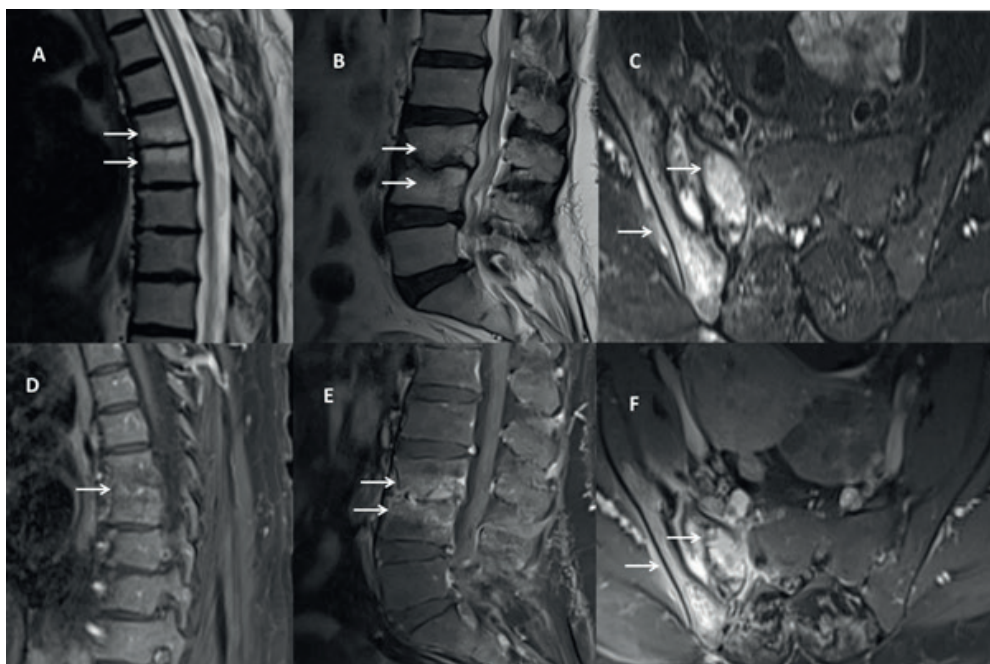


Images in Infectious Diseases

# Tuberculous Spondylodiscitis with Sacroiliac Joint Involvement

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**FIGURE 1:** Magnetic resonance imaging of the thoracic and lumbar spine and right sacroiliac joint. T2-weighted images (A–C) demonstrate areas of high signal intensity (arrows), while postcontrast images (D–F) show corresponding contrast enhancement (arrows).

A 50-year-old woman presented with a 1-year history of progressively worsening low back and hip pain, accompanied by a 10 kg weight loss. Laboratory evaluation revealed elevated inflammatory markers (erythrocyte sedimentation rate: 27 mm/h; C-reactive protein: 22 mg/L). Contrast-enhanced magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) revealed endplate irregularities, edema, disc space narrowing, and vertebral enhancement at T6–7, consistent with spondylitis. At L3–L4, MRI showed endplate destruction, edema, and intervertebral disc damage with marked enhancement, indicative of spondylodiscitis. T2-weighted images

revealed hyperintense signals in the right sacroiliac joint, with postcontrast enhancement of the joint, adjacent bone, and surrounding soft tissues, consistent with sacroiliitis (Figure 1). A Quantiferon test performed for suspected tuberculosis was positive (TB2 antigen: 0.98). The patient was treated with a 6-month antituberculosis regimen, leading to clinical improvement and marked radiologic regression on follow-up MRI (Figure 2).

Bone and joint tuberculosis constitutes a small proportion of all tuberculosis cases but can cause substantial morbidity. Spinal tuberculosis is the most common form, with an incidence of 2.4–7.2 per 100,000 in developed countries<sup>1</sup>. Sacroiliac joint involvement is uncommon, accounting for 3–9.7% of musculoskeletal tuberculosis<sup>2</sup>. Coexisting sacroiliac and spinal involvement complicates diagnosis.

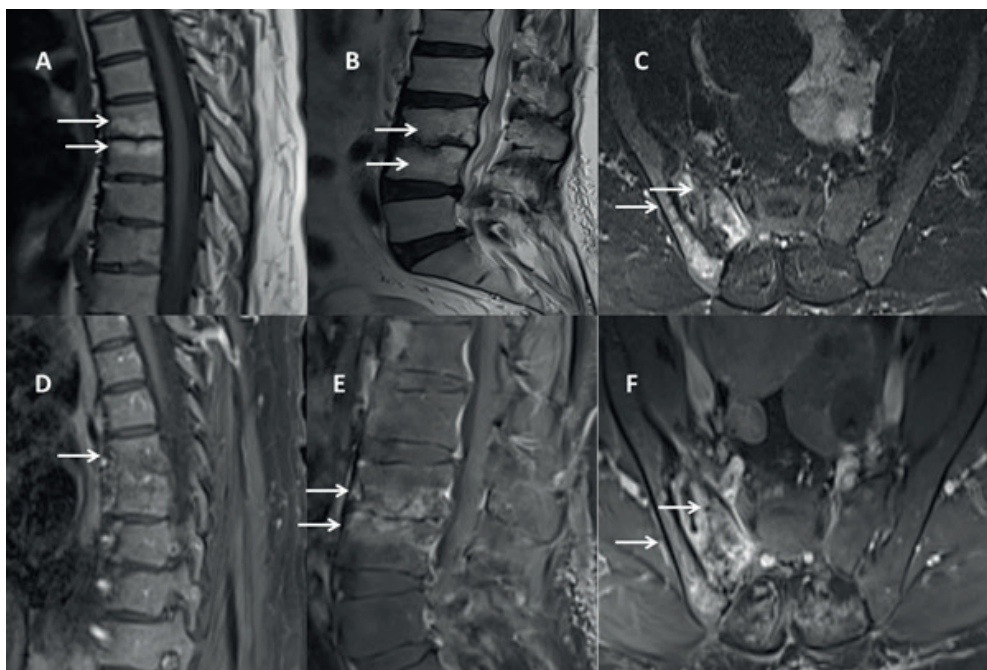
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**FIGURE 2:** Follow-up magnetic resonance imaging after 6 months of antituberculosis treatment reveals decreased signal intensity on T2-weighted images (**A–C, arrows**) and reduced contrast enhancement on postcontrast images (**D–F, arrows**).

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No.

## AUTHORS CONTRIBUTIONS

MSK: Conceptualization, Data curation ; TS: Investigation, Resources, Supervision; SŞ: Visualization, Writing – original draft, Writing – review & editing.

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