Extensive Syrinx with Charcot's Joints

A 40 years male presented with history of progressive weakness and thinning of all four limbs since two years. He had history of sensory loss involving upper limbs since nearly the same duration and had developed incontinence of urine since six months. He had developed painless swelling of both elbow joints which was slowly increasing. General examination revealed nontender swelling of both elbow joints and crepitus felt over both the joints. Neurological examination revealed wasting of small muscles of hand, sensory loss over C4 to T8 dermatomes, trophic ulcer over hand and upper motor neuron signs in lower limbs. MRI scan of the spine and brain showed extensive syrinx extending from cervical (Fig. 1) to lumbar cord (Fig. 2) but no other abnormality was noted. Other investigations did not reveal any abnormality. The point of interest in this case was an extensive idiopathic primary syrinxomyelia extending from cervical to lumbar cord and large Charcot's joints involving both the elbows.

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Received: 26.12.2001; Accepted: 17.9.2003