A 45 year old previously fit woman presented with a six month history of fatigue, generalised arthralgia, and burning discomfort in both legs. General examination was unremarkable except for a dull percussion note at the right lung apex. Neurological assessment showed mild spastic paraparesis with absent abdominal reflexes and reduced pain and temperature sensations below the fourth thoracic level. Extensive haematological, biochemical, immunological, serological, and electrophysiological investigations did not show any abnormalities. Chest radiography, however, disclosed an opacity at the right pulmonary apex (figure, A). Magnetic resonance imaging confirmed this (figure, B). The mass extended through the right neural foramen at the second thoracic level and caused compression of the spinal cord. These radiological features were suggestive of a dumbbell neurofibroma. The lesion was excised via a cervicothoracic approach. The histology was confirmed as a schwannoma. Postoperatively her symptoms resolved. Retrospectively, detailed family history was negative for neurofibromatosis.
Pulmonary apex schwannoma

KEYOUMARS ASHKAN and ADRIAN T H CASEY

*J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry* 1997 63: 719
doi: 10.1136/jnnp.63.6.719

Updated information and services can be found at:
http://jnnp.bmj.com/content/63/6/719

*These include:*

**Email alerting service**
Receive free email alerts when new articles cite this article. Sign up in the box at the top right corner of the online article.

**Topic Collections**
Articles on similar topics can be found in the following collections
- Neuromuscular disease (1311)
- Neurooncology (237)
- Peripheral nerve disease (631)
- Radiology (1747)
- Radiology (diagnostics) (1309)
- Injury (478)
- Musculoskeletal syndromes (537)
- Pain (neurology) (763)
- Spinal cord (542)
- Trauma (479)

**Notes**

To request permissions go to:
http://group.bmj.com/group/rights-licensing/permissions

To order reprints go to:
http://journals.bmj.com/cgi/reprintform

To subscribe to BMJ go to:
http://group.bmj.com/subscribe/