

Untreated Paget's Disease with Severe Bone Lesions

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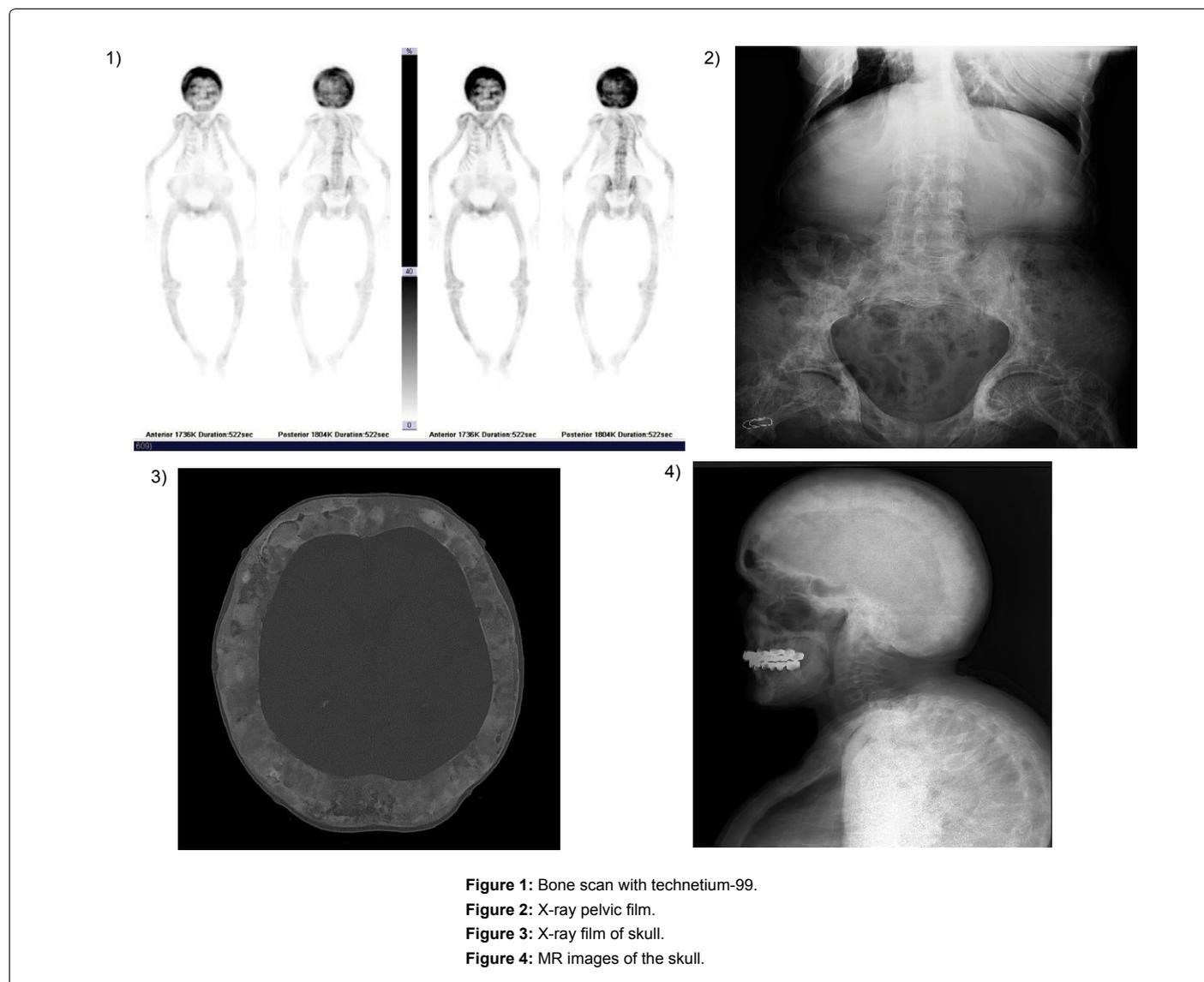


Figure 1: Bone scan with technetium-99.

Figure 2: X-ray pelvic film.

Figure 3: X-ray film of skull.

Figure 4: MR images of the skull.

Clinical image

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A 65-year-old woman presented with a long-standing history of chronic back pain, and difficulty walking. During the last three years

her relatives have realized a progressive hearing loss on her right and left side, as well as some facial changes, especially an enlargement of her mandible and an abnormal skull shape. A comprehensive metabolic panel with liver function tests, serum protein electrophoresis and growth hormone axis were normal. Serum alkaline phosphatase was

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markedly elevated at 3487 U/L (reference range 25-100) with normal levels of calcium 9.8 mg/dL and 25-hydroxyvitamin D 32 ng/mL. A bone scan with technetium-99 showed increased radiotracer uptake at various bony sites, including the T3, T6, T11 and T12, L3-L5 vertebrae, sacrum, pelvis, sternum and tip of the left scapula and skull reflects the increased bone turnover in Paget's disease (Figure 1). In addition, the x-ray pelvic film shows mixed lytic and sclerotic changes consistent with Paget's disease (Figure 2). Radiography of the skull revealed

thickening of the cranial bones, widening of the diploe and the “cotton wool” appearance caused by irregular areas of multiple osteolytic and osteosclerotic areas diffusely scattered throughout the skull (Figure 3). MR images of the skull confirmed bony expansion, cortical bone thickening (35 mm) and irregular areas of sclerosis (Figure 4).

Paget's disease is primarily affect axial skeleton but these degrees of bone changes are not commonly seen today on account of earlier diagnosis.