



OBSERVATION

STUDY: MRI OF THE RIGHT SHOULDER

HISTORY: Shoulder pain. Work related injury in 2009. History of shoulder surgery in 2010.

TECHNIQUE: Multiplanar, multisequence MR images of the right shoulder

COMPARISON: 5/16/13.

FINDINGS:

Osseous Acromial Outlet: There is a type 2 acromion with mild downsloping, narrowing the subacromial outlet to 5 mm. Mild degenerative changes are seen at the AC joint.

Rotator Cuff: There are postsurgical changes related to the previous rotator cuff surgery. Scattered foci of low signal intensity are seen about the rotator cuff. There is a tiny focus at the posterior joint line (axial image 9). Another focus is seen adjacent to the lateral shelf of the subacromion bursa (sagittal image 16) and also at the footprint fibers of the supraspinatus. There is diffuse thickening and signal alteration of the supraspinatus tendon. Most of these changes may be postsurgical abnormality of the tendon. The small full thickness tear cannot be excluded since there is small amount of fluid within the subacromion bursa which has progressed since the prior exam (coronal image 28). Subcortical marrow edema is seen at the anterior shelf of the greater tuberosity. No muscle atrophy. Subscapularis is intact.

Biceps and Labrum: Biceps tendon is well positioned in the bicipital groove. No obvious labral tear.

IMPRESSION:

Post-surgical changes of the rotator cuff with residual signal alteration of the rotator cuff tendon. Presence of fluid in the subacromion bursa is concerning for an underlying full thickness tear which may be obscured within the tendon signal abnormality. If surgical intervention is contemplated, further assessment with MR arthrogram is recommended for more detailed characterization.

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