Case Report 74

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Fig. 1A and B. Anteroposterior and lateral films of the lumbar spine show a destructive lesion involving the left half of the vertebral body (and pedicle) of L-4 with a left paravertebral mass. Erosion of the posterior surface of the vertebral body of L-4 is identified in the lateral film. Marked narrowing of the L3-4 disc cartilage is noted, particularly on the right. A mild scoliosis, convexity to the left, is present.

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History

This 59-year-old man presented for treatment of progressive low back pain. A lumbar vertebral biopsy had been performed at another hospital nine months previously. On the current admission neurological examination disclosed hypesthesia of the anterior aspect of the right leg. Radiological examination included plain films of the lumbar spine, computed tomographic studies of the spine, a spinal arteriogram and a lumbar myelogram (see Figs. 1A and B, 2, 3A and B, and 4).

Surgical exploration was performed.