



CERVICAL SPINE:

Soft Tissues

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Radiographic Evaluation

- **Alignment**
 - Anterior and Posterior body lines of the lateral view
 - Antero- or Retrolisthesis
 - Convexities
 - Flexion/Extension malpositions
 - Lordosis
- **Bone**
 - Vertebral body
 - Dens; Anterior tubercle
 - Pedicles; Spinous process
 - IVF
 - Ribs, upper
- **Cartilage/Disc space**
 - Facet; Uncovertebral joints
 - Disc
- **Soft tissues**

Soft Tissues

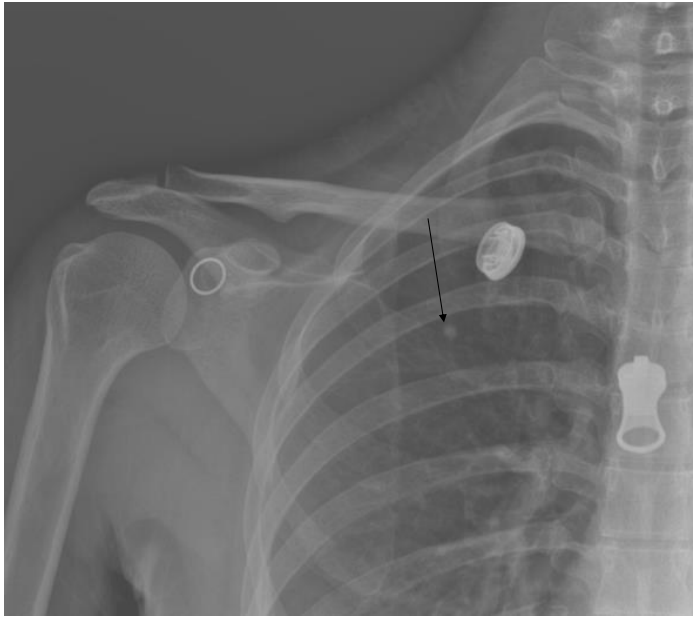
- Anterior soft tissues
- Posterior soft tissues
- Lateral soft tissues
- Upper Lung Fields
- Tracheal Air Shadow

Case

- Neck and right shoulder pain; MVA

- Right upper lung field
- Next slide, shoulder xray





Diagnosis & Follow-up

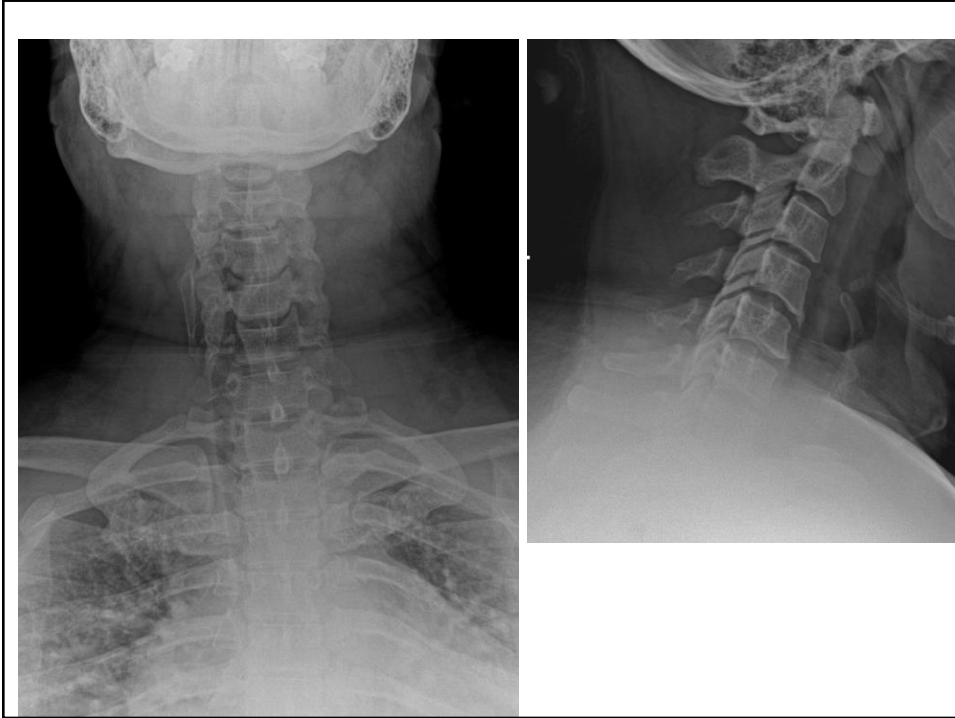
- Pulmonary nodule versus normal vasculature
- PA and lateral chest radiographs with full inspiratory effort
- If necessary, CT of chest

Reminder

- Gown your patient

Case

- Generalized neck pain



Tracheal deviation

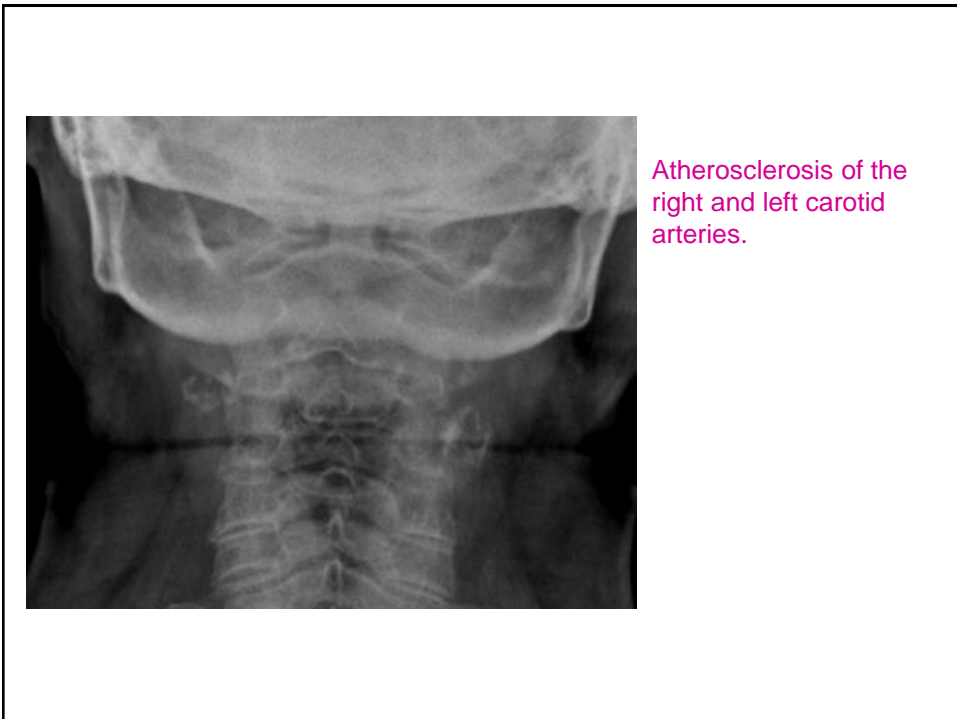
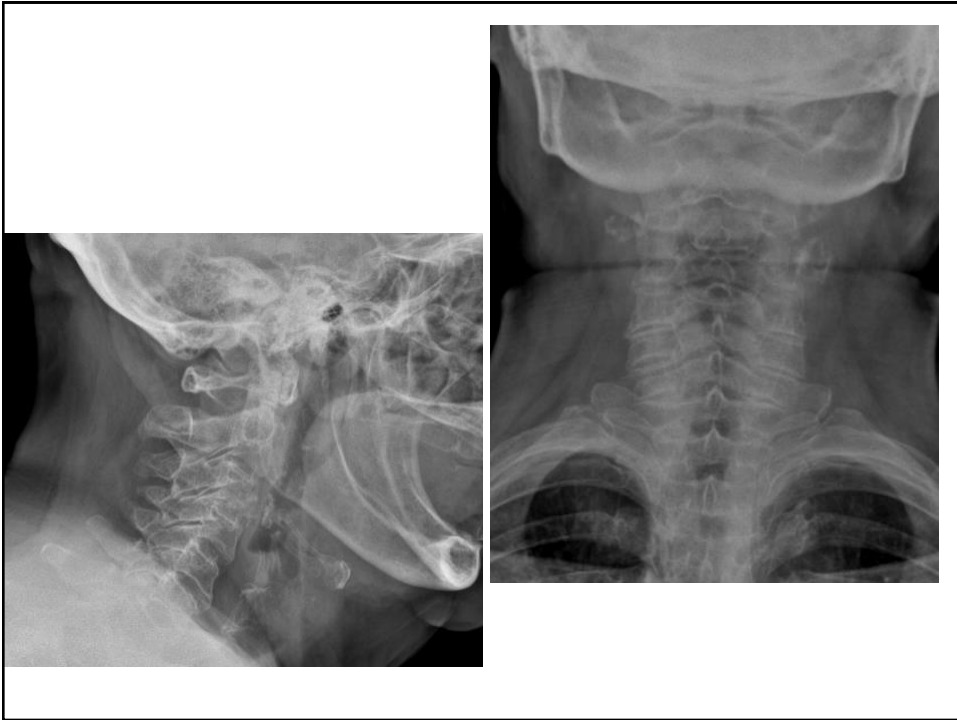
- Lymphoma
- Teratoma
- Goiter
- Tumors of thymus or thyroid

Follow-up

- Palpation; History
- Ultrasound
- CT and Chest xrays

Case

- Chronic neck pain and stiffness



Case

- Generalized neck pain



Ossification of stylohyoid ligament



Eagle's Syndrome

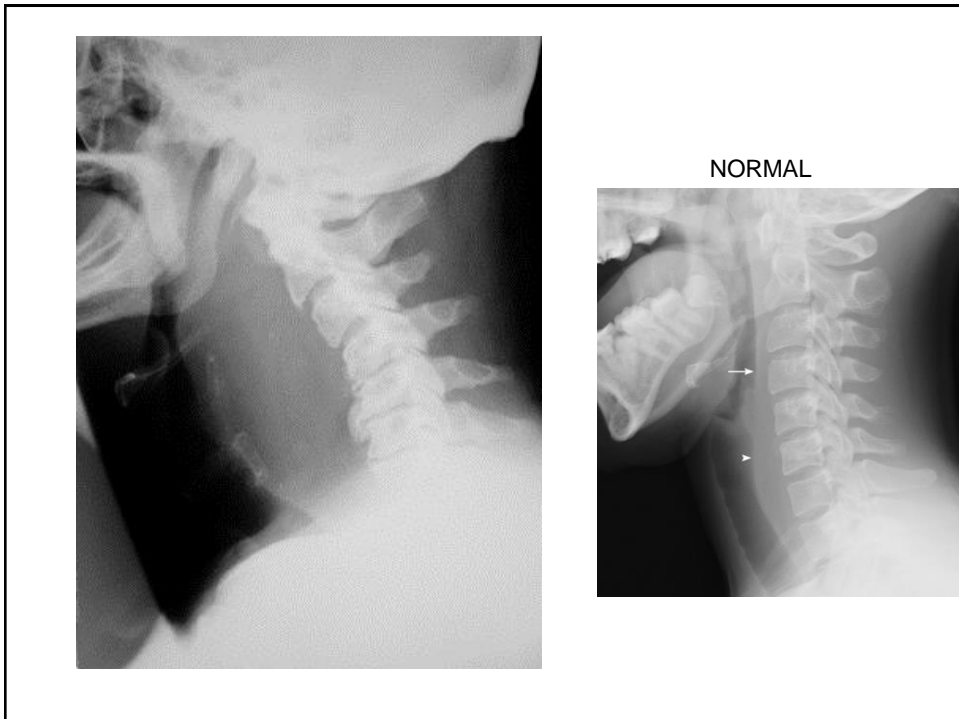
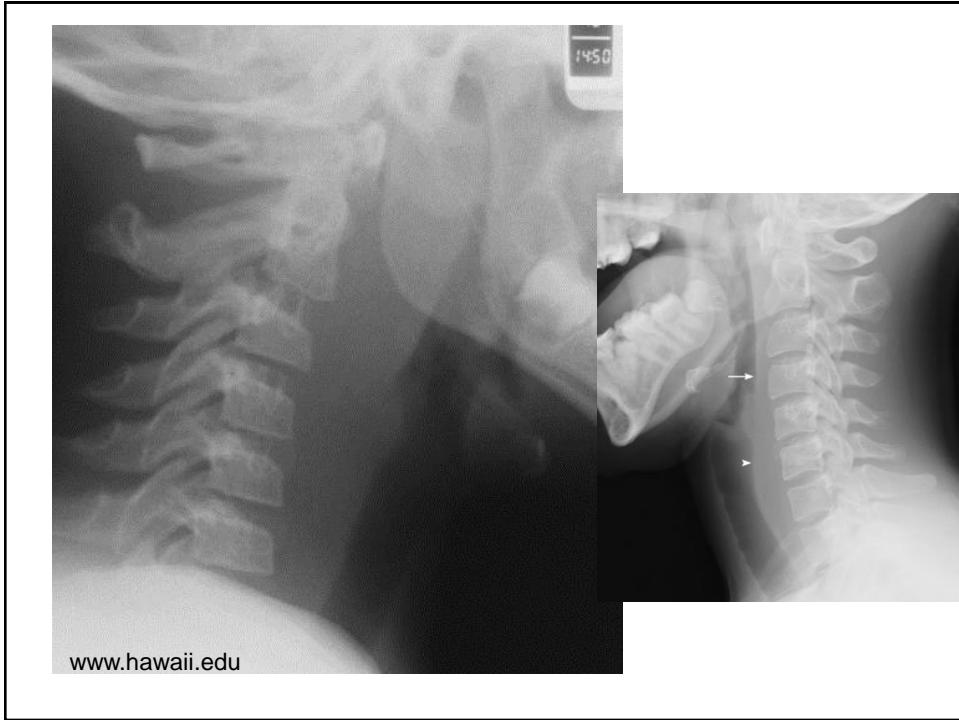
- Aka Styloid-Carotid artery syndrome
- Rare
- S/S: Sudden, sharp nerve-like pain in the [jaw bone](#), [back of the throat](#), and base of the tongue, triggered by swallowing, moving the jaw, or turning the neck; Tinnitus; Dysphagia.

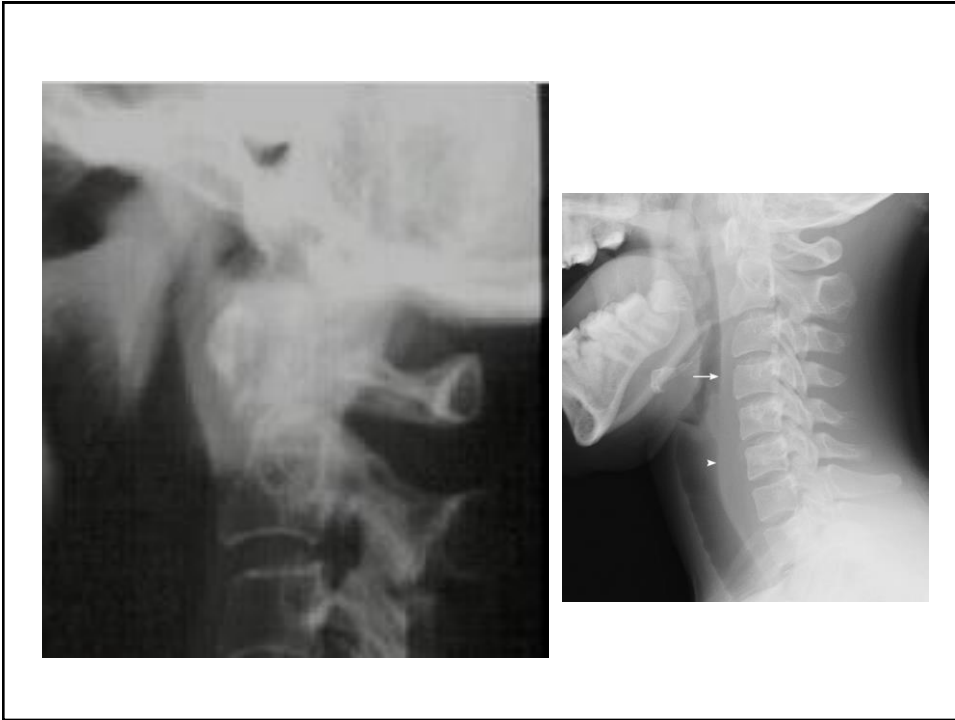
Follow-up

- If necessary, CT imaging and surgical removal, styloidectomy.

Case

- Neck pain; Other symptoms withheld





Diagnosis of Prevertebral Soft Tissue Abnormalities

- Slide 1= Infection or abscess
- Slide 2= Mass or cyst
- Slide 3= Edema, trauma



Measurement

- Prevertebral soft tissue
 - Retropharyngeal:
>7.0-mm
 - Retrotracheal:
>22.0-mm



Case



DISH

- Ossification of the anterior longitudinal ligament
- Dysphagia

Case



Nuchal bone

- Sesamoid ossicles within the nuchal ligament
- Normal variant

Normal Nuchal Ligament

- Nuchal ligament extends from EOP to the C7 spinous process.
 - Trapezius and splenius capitis muscle attaches to L. nuchae.
- Nuchal ligament is normally subjected to pressure against the apex of the spinous processes during forward flexion of the neck leading to ossicles formation at the higher mobility region, typically at the C5–C6 level

Case





Normal Thyroid Cartilage Calcification

- Normal variant

Just for fun

- Swallowed oyster shell fragment



- Swallowed piece chicken bone



- More chicken bones



- Swallowed coin



- Clothing artifact





THANK YOU
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