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[Arachnoiditis The Silent Epidemic Pdf Files](#)



**Fig 1** Computer axial tomography, post myelogram showing 'enhanced' nerve roots, located abnormally (arrow) on the anterior (upper) half of the dural sac, which have become deformed from a combination of a broadly herniated intervertebral disc, spondylosis and ligamentum flavum hypertrophy.



**Fig 2** Computer axial tomography, post myelogram depicting 'clumped' nerve roots (arrow) in the middle of the thecal sac (proliferative phase) at L3-L4 level.

personal series of 374 patients with arachnoiditis and wondered how many were related to *obstetric* epidurals; unfortunately, this has not been reported or published.

Table 1 in our review referred to a summary of the symptoms reported in CAA and not early changes of arachnoiditis as it was referred to by Aldrete. We would also disagree with Aldrete in his interpretation of Reynolds' report<sup>8</sup> that 'an arachnoiditic process' was involved in the conus damage during spinal anaesthesia. Direct trauma, as evidenced by a syringe in the conus, was the cause. We have confirmed this with Prof. Reynolds.

We are glad that Aldrete agrees with us that in the light of current evidence, we should not withhold regional analgesia from women in labour, and also that he supports our conclusion that a full clinical examination and MRI investigation will help in the detection and diagnosis of arachnoiditis in obstetrics.

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1 We were interested to read of Aldrete's personal series of 374 patients with 2.

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