Human tail

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Dear Editorial,

I read with interest this case report of “A bony human tail causing tethered cord syndrome: case report by Natarajan Muthukumar. Childs Nerv Syst [2014] 30:703–707, DOI [10.1007/s00381-013-2213-6](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00381-013-2213-6).” The case containing a totally bony human tail is well illustrated and its relationship with or without cord tethering is briefly mentioned. It is strange that our report has been missed in the literature review and I think using this manuscript for discussing the material will be helpful [1]. Such pathologies include wide spectrum of congenital midline dysraphisms which cannot be simply classified into those with or without tethering as mentioned by the authors, and we discussed the matter in our report of four similar but varying cases. As mentioned in our discussion, such a condition may include teratoma and hamartoma, disturbances in regression of fetal tail, and pseudotail formation. This issue has not been

discussed by the kind authors of the case report [2]. In our review, the possible theories regarding the genesis of such anomalies are discussed and it is also hypothesized that all similar cases could have been of hamartomatous origin rather than defects of embryogenesis.

References

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