

CNS Module CBL – I

Learning Objectives:

By the end of CBL, students will be able to:

- Understand the pathways of different spinal tracts.
- Evaluate different levels of dissociation of the spinal tracts.
- Describe pathologies related to the spinal tracts.
- Correlate spinal tract pathologies with the presenting symptoms.

Case:

A 26-year-old man presents with history of stab wound injury to thoracic spine in a roadside cash snatching incident. After initial treatment for a week in hospital, patient was referred to neurosurgery department for further management. On examination, he had weakness of right leg with increased extensor tone and sensory loss on left side of body up to D₁₀ level. Deep tendon reflexes appeared intact on left side but brisker in right lower limb. Upper limb examination and rest of neurological examination was unremarkable.

1. Where do you think is the lesion?
2. What is this syndrome called?
3. What other abnormal signs you expect to find in this patient?
4. Why does this patient have dissociation of motor and sensory signs?
5. The posterior column neurons decussate at what level?
6. The lateral corticospinal tract decussates at what level?