

# Case report: Nailed it! an unusual presentation of penetrating traumatic injury - A successful extraction of a 12-year-old nail from the skull

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## **ABSTRACT**

A local case study on a successful surgical removal of a left high parietal foreign body in a 17-year-old female patient, who presented with an incidental finding of a nail on her plain skull X-ray during her Emergency Department visit following an alleged motor vehicle accident. Detailed clinical examination, imaging studies including computed tomography (CT) scan and neurosurgical intervention were performed. This case report aims to present a rare case of a single nail found penetrated into the skull and subsequent successful extraction, highlighting the diagnostic and therapeutic challenges encountered. The procedure was challenging due to the precise localization of the nail and proximity to critical neurovascular structures. However, careful dissection and extraction techniques were employed, resulting in successful removal without significant complications or neurological sequelae. Penetrating head injuries caused by foreign objects such as nails are uncommon but can lead to serious complications if not managed effectively. This case underscores the importance of a multidisciplinary approach involving emergency physicians, neurosurgeons, and radiologists in the diagnosis and management of such rare injuries. Early recognition, thorough evaluation, and a well-planned surgical intervention are crucial for optimal outcomes in cases of nail penetration into the skull.