Bilateral Double-Layered Patella (DLP) with Suprapatellar Impingement

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Clinical Image

A 22 year-old man presented complaining of anterior knee pain and no history of trauma. A Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) and Computed Tomography (CT) were performed, demonstrating two patellar layers bilateral, one anterior and one posterior on both knees, confirming the diagnosis of bilateral DLP. We found the anterior osseous patellar layer attached to the extensor mechanism. In the MRI, both knees had fluid like signal replacing the normal suprapatellar fat pad, which we assumed to be the cause of the pain due to the impingement with the femoral trochlea. No significant chondropathy was founded.

The DLP is a rare entity [1] that consists of two distinct patellar layers, one anterior and one posterior. The literature admits frequent association of DLP with autosomal recessive form of multiple epiphyseal dysplasia (MED) [2,3]. An all body X-ray was performed and there were no signs that suggest that association.

References
