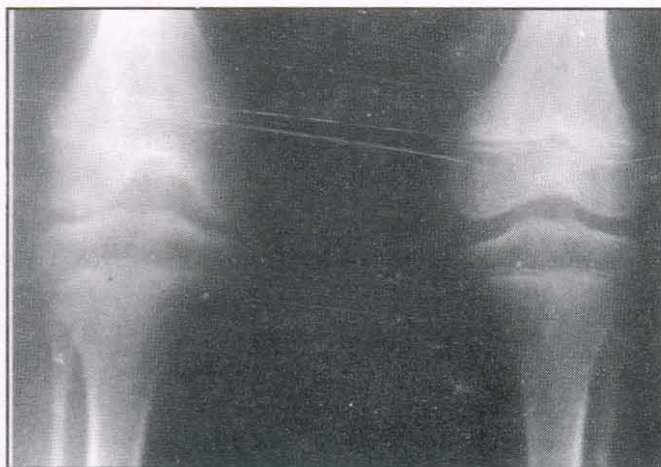




Hemophilic Arthritis of Knee Joints

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X-ray AP view of the bilateral knee showing soft tissue swelling of the right knee, hazy density of the intra articular space and epiphyseo-metaphyseal junction, widening of epiphyses at the lower end of femur and upper end of tibia, widened intercondylar notch and reduced joint space. Hazy intra-articular space and widened intercondylar notch are characteristic of hemophilic arthropathy.

Hemophilic arthropathy commonly involves knee, ankle and elbow joints. It usually presents as dense soft tissue swelling, osteoporosis, subchondral cysts, epiphyseal abnormalities (accelerated growth and ballooned appearance of epiphysis as compared to diaphysis) expansile destructive lesions resembling pseudotumor (1-2% incidence and common sites are pelvis and femur), and joint disorganization (complete loss of joint space, articular fragmentation, sclerosis, osteophyte and bone malalignment). All the above findings may occur in other arthritis as well. However, widening of femoral intercondylar notch with hazy intra-articular space are characteristic of hemophilic arthropathy. Other characteristic features of hemophilic arthropathy are squaring of the distal patellar margin (on lateral view), enlargement of the proximal radius and talar flattening.

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