# REVERSED PALMARIS LONGUS (RPL) AND CARPAL TUNNEL SYNDROME (CTS)

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### PATIENT INFORMATION AND **CLINICAL FINDINGS**

A 27 years old female, left laterality, without trauma history or comorbidities, presented with two months of numbness, tingling, pain in first 3 fingers of her right hand, and hypoesthesia in the first finger. Electrodiagnostic study evidenced prolongation of sensitive and motor latencies of the right median nerve. Ultrasound found an increased (12) mm2) median nerve cross sectional area (CSA), and a muscular structure comprising the nerve. Figure 1.

## INTRODUCTION

Median nerve compressive neuropathy, secondary to anatomic variants of palmaris longus muscle, is infrequent. The RPL is one of the most rare variants, where the tendon is proximal, the muscular belly is distal and it can compress the median nerve. RPL is more prevalent in the right hand.



Figure 1. Longitudinal view . Median nerve at wrist. Gold arrow: reversed palmaris longus. White arrow: median nerve

The second case is a 70 years old female, right laterality, with a large history of bilateral CTS. She assisted because she felt that her symptoms were impaired. Electrodiagnostic

## **DISCUSSION AND** CONCLUSIONS

Atypical presentation of CTS

evidence showed several prolongation of the sensitive and motor latencies of the right hand nerve and moderate in the left hand. Ultrasound found a bilateral increased CSA of median nerve (right 14 mm and left 16 mm2) and a muscular structure comprising the left median nerve. Figure 2. Magnetic resonance was solicited in both cases. Only in the second case it was realized and corroborated the ultrasound findings.



Figure 2. Median nerve at wrist. A. Long axis B. Short axis. Gold arrow: reversed palmaris longus. White arrow: median nerve



must be explored with an image because it can find abnormal variants like a RPL, and it can change the treatment. In the chronical presentations it might be helpful to decide new interventions. Ultrasound is a low price complement to study this pathology.



