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Peripheral Nerve Injury associated with a Subdermal Contraceptive Implant: Illustrative Cases and Systematic Review of Literature

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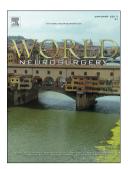
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#### ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

## Peripheral Nerve Injury associated with a Subdermal

#### **Contraceptive Implant:**

## Illustrative Cases and Systematic Review of Literature

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- 5 SHORT TITLE Nerve Injury associated with a Subdermal Contraceptive Implant
- 6 ABSTRACT
- 7 BACKGROUND Despite the demonstrable safety and efficacy of subdermal contraceptive
- 8 implants (SCI), both insertion and removal of SCI in the arm have been associated with
- 9 neurovascular complications. The primary aim of this study is to investigate the type and
- 10 prognosis of nerve injuries associated with SCI.
- 11 **METHODS** The authors performed a comprehensive search of 4 electronic databases for
- studies pertaining to patients with nerve injury and concurrent SCI. Studies published between
- January 1987 and June 2017 were included. Implant location, damaged nerve(s), clinical
- presentation, preoperative imaging (X-rays, ultrasound, MRI), neurologic evaluation (nerve
- conduction studies and electromyography), and treatment methods were reviewed. To outline
- management strategies, 2 illustrative cases of major nerve injury caused by implant removal
- were presented.
- 18 **RESULTS** A total of 10 studies including 12 patients were analyzed. Fourteen nerve injuries
- were reported during SCI insertion (n=1) and removal (n=11). The medial antebrachial
- 20 cutaneous (n=5) and median (n=5) nerves were primarily affected. Neuropathic pain was the
- 21 main symptom. The primary reasons for nerve injury were pulling or grasping of the nerve
- 22 (n=9) after mistaking it for the implant. Neurapraxia (n=7) was the most common lesion and

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