



**Supplementary Fig. 1.** Multilevel cord compression during extension. A 73-year-old male was diagnosed with cervical spondylotic myelopathy due to a herniated cervical disc and bony spur at C5–6–7. (A) Flexion-positioned magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) showed cord compression decrease at C5–6–7 and no effacement of the subarachnoid space. (B) Neutral-positioned MRI showed partial obliteration of the anterior subarachnoid space at C5–6–7. (C) Extension-positioned MRI showed severe cord impingement at C3–4–5–6–7 and complete cord compression at C3–4–5. (D) We performed cervical selective laminoplasty and fusion C3–4–5–6–7, and his upper and lower weakness improved after the surgery.