

On-line Table: Radiologic characteristics of the most common central nervous system lesions in type 2 decompression sickness

Lesion Type	Appearance on MRI	Probable Pathophysiologic Mechanism	Typical Location	Evolution
Ischemic	Restricted diffusion (hyperintensity on DWI, low values on ADC map) and high signal on T2WI Contrast enhancement is inconstant (depending on imaging delay)	Arterial occlusion by nitrogen bubbles or pathologically formed thrombi OR in situ nitrogen toxicity	Cerebral white matter OR spinal cord gray matter	Irreversible (Figs 3 A–C)
Ischemic-like	Hyperintensity on DWI and high values on ADC map (vasogenic edema)	Obstruction of low flowing epidural venous bed by nitrogen bubbles	White matter of lateral and posterior columns in thoracic or cervical cord segments	Reversible (Figs 1 and 2)