**Case Presentation:** A 13-year-old male presented with right knee pain and swelling from a basketball injury. The right knee exam demonstrated minimal swelling, decreased range of motion secondary to pain, and generalized tenderness. A radiograph of the right knee revealed a tibial spine fracture.

**Discussion:** Tibial spine fractures are avulsion fractures of the spine of the tibia at the insertion site of the anterior cruciate ligament. The incidence of avulsion fractures is higher in adolescents because the region of the apophyseal growth plate between the soft-tissue attachment site and the body of the bone is weaker in that age group. 

Keywords: tibial spine; fracture; avulsion.
Tibial Spine Fracture in an Adolescent Male

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What do we already know about this clinical entity?
Avulsion fractures are common in the adolescent years. Tibial spine fractures are relatively uncommon compared to other lower extremity avulsion fractures.

What makes this presentation of disease reportable?
Avulsion fracture of the tibial spine occurred in an adolescent after a minor knee injury.

What is the major learning point?
Although uncommon, avulsion fractures do occur in adolescents with knee injuries often associated with ligamentous injuries.

How might this improve emergency medicine practice?
Practitioners should thoroughly evaluate x-rays for associated avulsion fractures such as tibial spine fractures in any adolescent with a joint injury.

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REFERENCES

Image 2. Lateral view of right tibial spine avulsion fracture showing anterior displacement.