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### **Seat Belt Syndrome and the Submarine Effect: A Case Report\***

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#### **Abstract**

The seatbelt sign is indicative of severe internal lesions in as many as 30% of cases. In the “submarine effect” the body slides below the belt, acting like hinge. “Seatbelt syndrome” describes the presence of the seat belt sign plus an intra-abdominal or spinal injury. We present the case of a driver in a car accident in whom severe soft tissue and visceral lesions were caused by a two-point seat-belt reproducing a complete “seatbelt syndrome”.

**Key words:** seatbelt syndrome, submarine effect