

Harlequin syndrome in spontaneous dissection of the cervical carotid artery

Figure 1 Axial fat saturated T1-weighted MRI showing a hyperintense wall hematoma (arrows) surrounding the left cervical internal carotid artery

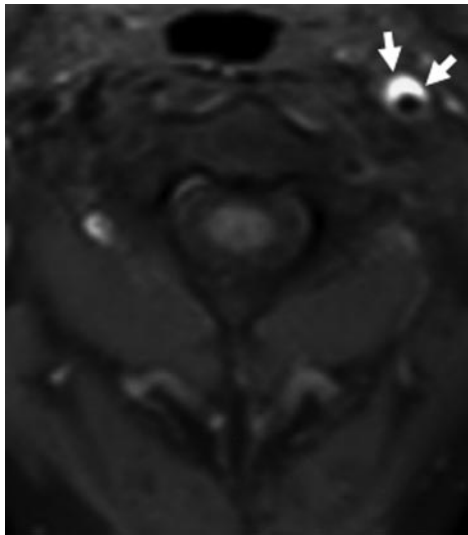


Figure 2 Photograph taken after the patient jogged, showing pale left forehead and nose, and right forehead and nose flush with the same intensity as both cheeks



A 52-year-old previously healthy man had a spontaneous dissection of the left cervical carotid artery (figure 1) with Horner syndrome. Three months later, when the patient restarted his running training, he noticed the symptoms of Harlequin syndrome (figure 2), which consist of unilateral facial flushing and sweating.¹ The Harlequin syndrome affected only the left part of the patient's face and nose, because vasomotor and sudomotor sympathetic fibers traveling along the internal carotid artery innervate just the forehead and nose. This patient shows that physicians should also consider spontaneous carotid dissection as possible etiology of Harlequin syndrome.

Hakan Sarikaya, MD, Dimitrios Georgiadis, MD, Ralf W. Baumgartner, MD, Zürich, Switzerland

Disclosure: The authors report no disclosures.

Address correspondence and reprint requests to Dr. Ralf W. Baumgartner, Department of Neurology, University Hospital, Frauenklinikstrasse 26, CH-8091 Zürich, Switzerland; ralf.baumgartner@usz.ch

1. Lance JW, Drummond PD, Gandevia SC, Morris JG. Harlequin syndrome: the sudden onset of unilateral flushing and sweating. *J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry* 1988;51:635–642.

Neurology[®]

Harlequin syndrome in spontaneous dissection of the cervical carotid artery

Hakan Sarikaya, Dimitrios Georgiadis and Ralf W. Baumgartner

Neurology 2008;71;1459

DOI 10.1212/01.wnl.0000327877.74795.d7

This information is current as of October 27, 2008

Updated Information & Services	including high resolution figures, can be found at: http://n.neurology.org/content/71/18/1459.full
References	This article cites 1 articles, 1 of which you can access for free at: http://n.neurology.org/content/71/18/1459.full#ref-list-1
Citations	This article has been cited by 1 HighWire-hosted articles: http://n.neurology.org/content/71/18/1459.full##otherarticles
Subspecialty Collections	This article, along with others on similar topics, appears in the following collection(s): Carotid artery dissection http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/carotid_artery_dissection
Permissions & Licensing	Information about reproducing this article in parts (figures, tables) or in its entirety can be found online at: http://www.neurology.org/about/about_the_journal#permissions
Reprints	Information about ordering reprints can be found online: http://n.neurology.org/subscribers/advertise

Neurology® is the official journal of the American Academy of Neurology. Published continuously since 1951, it is now a weekly with 48 issues per year. Copyright . All rights reserved. Print ISSN: 0028-3878. Online ISSN: 1526-632X.

