

Teaching NeuroImages: Rupture and spontaneous resolution of a P1 perforator pseudoaneurysm

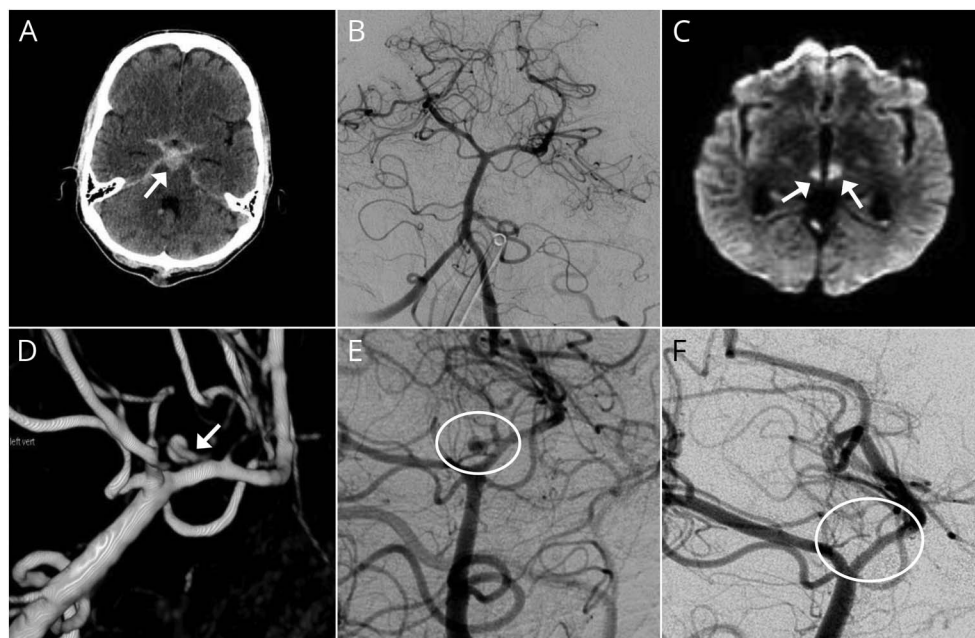
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Figure Rupture and spontaneous resolution of a thalamoperforator pseudoaneurysm



(A) Admission CT shows subarachnoid hemorrhage (arrow). (B) Initial catheter angiography shows no visible abnormalities. (C) Brain MRI DWI shows bilateral thalamic infarcts (arrows). (D) Follow-up angiography, 3D reconstruction, demonstrates a 2 mm pseudoaneurysm arising from a large left thalamoperforator (arrow). (E) 2D of the same study. (F) Angiography 6 weeks after presentation documents spontaneous resolution of the pseudoaneurysm (circle).

A 47-year-old man with a history of smoking and hypertension had a severe, sudden headache. Head CT showed subarachnoid hemorrhage (SAH) (figure, A). Progressive ophthalmoplegia developed without alteration of consciousness. Catheter angiography was normal (figure, B). Brain MRI documented bilateral thalamic infarcts (figure, C). Repeat catheter angiography after 4 days showed a 2-mm dissecting pseudoaneurysm of a thalamoperforator (figure, D and E). Serial noninvasive vascular studies documented no growth. Six weeks later, a catheter angiogram demonstrated complete resolution of the pseudoaneurysm (figure, F). Bilateral third nerve palsy persisted at 1 year follow-up. Dissecting pseudoaneurysms of perforating posterior circulation vessels can present with a pattern suggestive of perimesencephalic SAH. Presence of associated neurologic deficits should increase the level of suspicion. Spontaneous resolution can occur without invasive treatment.¹

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Go to Neurology.org/N for full disclosures. Funding information and disclosures deemed relevant by the authors, if any, are provided at the end of the article.

Author contributions

Enrico Giordan: manuscript preparation, drafting manuscript, collection of data and figure, approval of final version. Alejandro A. Rabinstein: collection of data, preparation of manuscript, critical review and approval of the final version. Harry Cloft: collection of data, critical review and final approval of the manuscript. Giuseppe Lanzino: manuscript preparation, drafting manuscript, collection of data and figure, approval of final version.

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Disclosure

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Reference

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