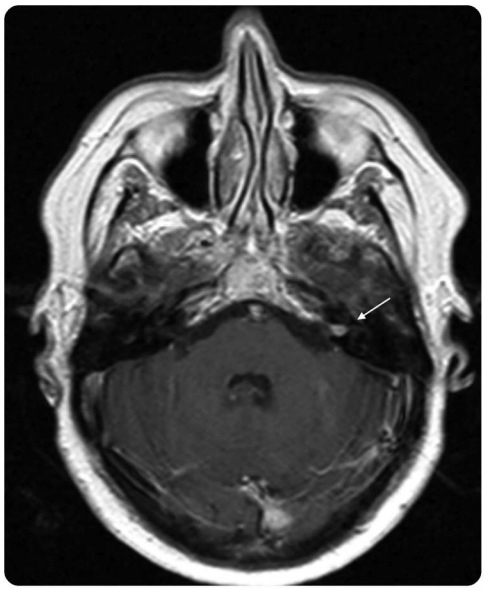
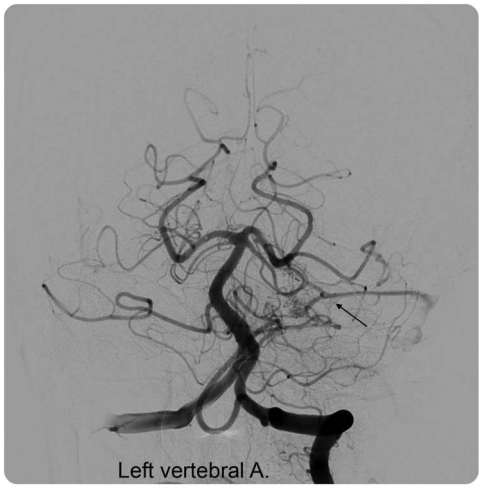
Arteriovenous fistula mimicking vestibular schwannoma

Figure 1 MRI, axial T1-weighted imaging postcontrast



Axial T1-weighted image (postcontrast) shows an enhancing lesion of the left internal acoustic meatus consistent with vestibular schwannoma (arrow).

Figure 2 Cerebral angiogram, anteroposterior view, midarterial phase, left vertebral artery injection



Cerebral angiogram anteroposterior view, midarterial phase, left vertebral artery injection shows early venous drainage into the superior petrosal sinus (arrow).

A 59-year-old woman presented with progressive left-sided sensorineural hearing loss. Workup revealed an enhancing lesion of the internal auditory canal (IAC) consistent with vestibular schwannoma (figure 1).

The patient underwent a translabyrinthine approach for resection of the mass. When the dura of the IAC was opened, no tumor was found but several large vessels were noted.

Cerebral angiography was performed and early venous drainage suggested an arteriovenous fistula, fed by the anterior inferior cerebellar artery, draining into the superior and inferior petrosal sinuses (figure 2).

M. Neil Woodall, MD, Scott Y. Rahimi, MD

From the Department of Neurological Surgery, Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University.

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Correspondence to Dr. Woodall: mneilwoodall@gmail.com

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