



Developmental Venous Anomaly Adjacent to Aqueduct of Sylvius

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A 15-year-old boy presented to our hospital with headache after head trauma caused by a traffic accident. T2-weighted axial MR images demonstrated the deep medullary veins of the cerebellum

converging on the roof of the fourth ventricle. These veins drained into the subependymal vein, which then drained into the precentral cerebellar vein (Figure 1). MR-cisternography with 3D Fourier

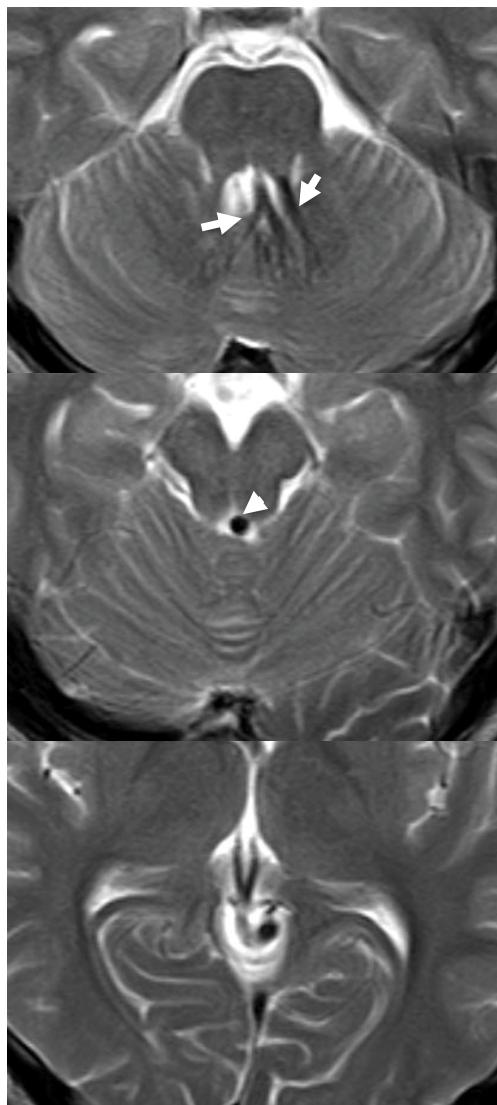


Figure 1: T2-weighted axial MR-image showing posterior DVA collector veins (arrow) draining into the precentral cerebellar vein (arrowhead).

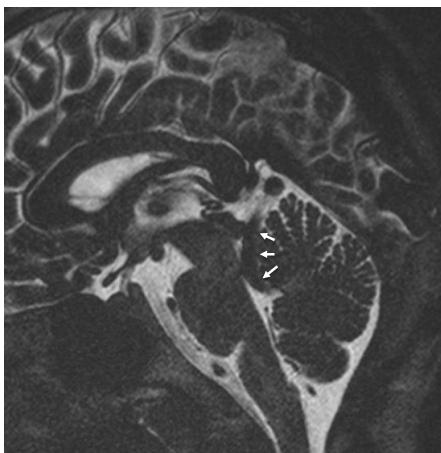


Figure 2: MR-cisternography with CISS showing the dilated precentral cerebellar vein (arrow) located adjacent to the exit of the aqueduct and penetrating the superior medullary velum.

transformation constructive interference in steady state (CISS), which can depict the venous anatomy when it is surrounded by CSF, demonstrated a dilated precentral cerebellar vein located in the fourth ventricle. This dilated precentral cerebellar vein ran adjacent to exit area of the aqueduct of Sylvius, penetrated the superior medullary velum and finally drained into the vein of Galen (Figure 2). The lesion was diagnosed as a developmental venous anomaly (DVA). MR-images did not show any hemorrhage or ventricular dilatation. This young man did not require any specific medical treatment for his venous anomaly.

Developmental venous anomalies (DVAs) are known as congenital intracranial vascular lesion. Most DVAs are asymptomatic; however, they may occasionally cause obstructive hydrocephalus and should be considered in cases of chronic or intermittent headaches [1-3]. Paulson *et al.* reported a case with hydrocephalus caused by the DVA passing through the orifice of the aqueduct and referred 10 previously reported cases which had presented with hydrocephalus [2]. Their conclusion was that no surgical treatment was necessary for the DVAs for itself, but CSF diversion might be necessary in some cases. Although MR-images demonstrated a dilated precentral cerebellar vein adjacent to the aqueduct in our case which presented with headache, an aqueduct stenosis resulting in hydrocephalus was not present and surgical intervention was not considered necessary.

Disclosure

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