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Balint's syndrome caused by colpocephaly and cerebral infarction

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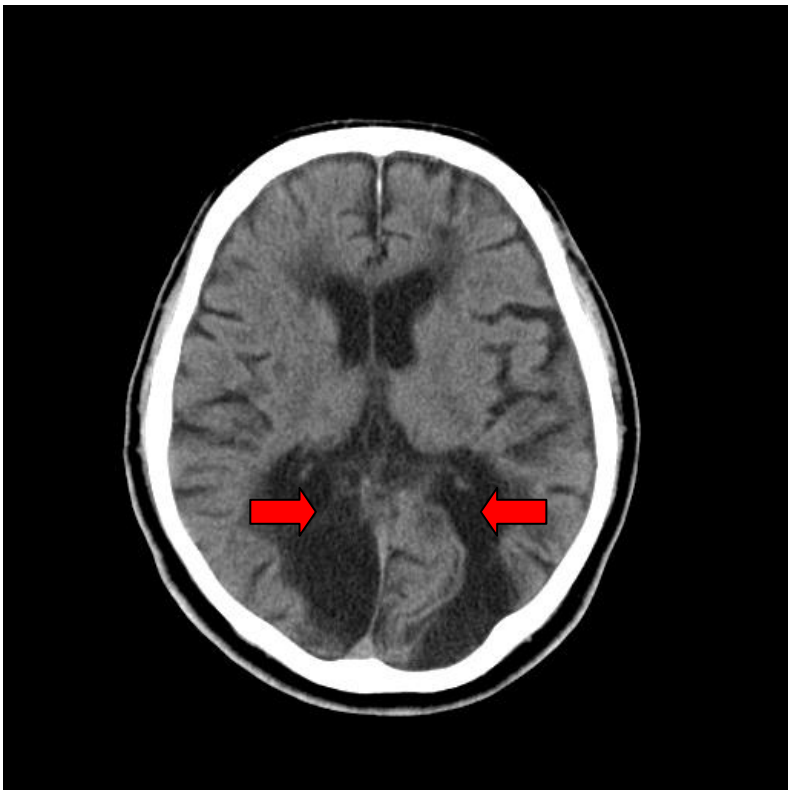

Figure 1. CT exemplify disproportionate enlargement of the occipital horns of the lateral ventricles characteristic of colpocephaly (red arrows).

A 67-year-old man consulted our hospital for "*blindness*". Since his childhood, he has shown irritation and developmental disabilities. Nine years

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ago, he suffered from cerebellar ataxia. His non-contrast computed tomography (CT) of head showed cerebral infarction and congenital colpocephaly (Figure 1). Physical rehabilitation reduced his wobble. But then he claimed to have impaired vision. Neurological examination showed his simultanagnosia, oculomotor and optic ataxia. He was diagnosed with balint's syndrome, a type of higher brain dysfunction. Rehabilitation based on compensatory strategies gradually improved his quality of life. Now he is living well in the nursing home with the help of staff.

Balint's syndrome is generally due to bilateral dysfunction of the posterior parietal lobe and is rare in cerebral infarction [1]. This case shows that higher brain dysfunction can also occur with infarcts in atypical locations, if there is a congenital malformation such as colpocephaly.

References

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