



## IMAGES IN INTENSIVE MEDICINE

### Giant aneurysm of the left internal carotid artery with partial thrombosis



### Aneurisma gigante de arteria carótida interna izquierda con trombosis parcial

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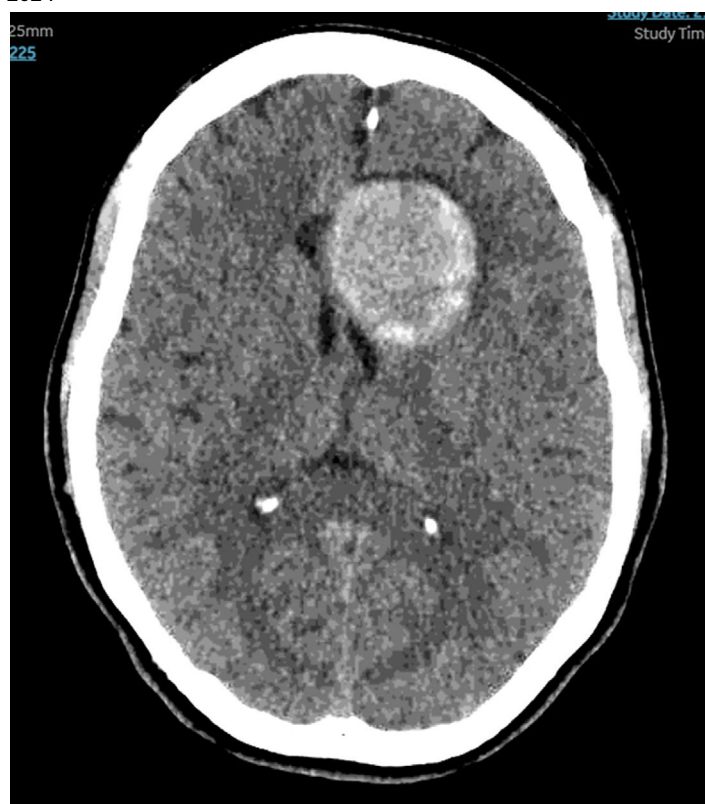


Figure 1

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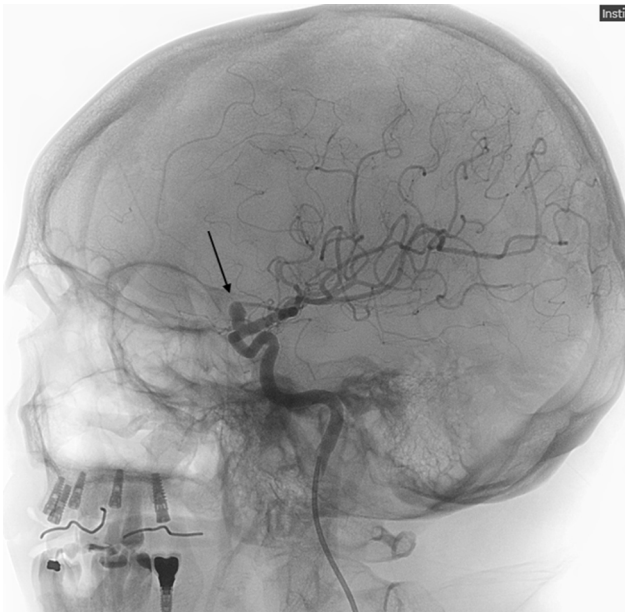


Figure 2

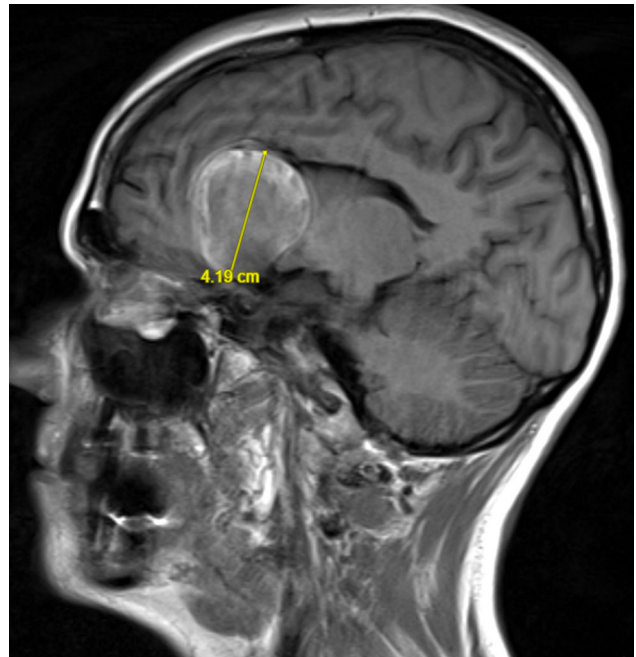


Figure 3

A 49-year-old woman suffered a first seizure episode. The brain CT scan (Fig. 1) revealed a giant aneurysm of the left internal carotid artery (ICA) with subtotal thrombosis (no CT-angio contrast uptake). Arteriography was decided (Fig. 2), showing a large left carotid-ophthalmic aneurysm, with a minimum patent portion ( $8 \times 5$  mm). The rest proved thrombotic. During arteriography, the patient developed hemiparesis and deviation of the vocal commissure, with arteriographic vasospasm that subsided with verapamil. Magnetic resonance imaging (Fig. 3) described the aneurysm with a left frontal parasellar location, measuring  $4.2 \times 3.9 \times 3.6$  cm, originating at the top of the left ICA and exerting a mass effect upon both anterior cerebral arteries and the left middle cerebral artery, as well as compression and right displacement of both frontal horns. The MR-angio study evidenced a 9-mm saccular dilatation in the supraclinoid portion of the left ICA, located within the lower third of the described lesion. A differential diagnosis with contained rupture of the aneurysm was considered. Surgery with clipping of the aneurysm was decided, with confirmation of its partial thrombosis and an intact capsule. The patient subsequently remained symptoms-free, with salt-wasting syndrome as the only posterior complication.

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### Declaration of competing interest

None.

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