

High-resolution vessel wall imaging in human neurocysticercosis with leptomeningitis

Imagens de alta resolução das paredes dos vasos na neurocisticercose humana, com leptomeningite

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The high-resolution vessel wall imaging (HR-VWI) is a millimetric technique that demonstrates vessel wall inflammation, which can occur simultaneously with leptomenin-

gitis. Encephalic infarction may be observed in less than 50% of the cases.^{1–3}

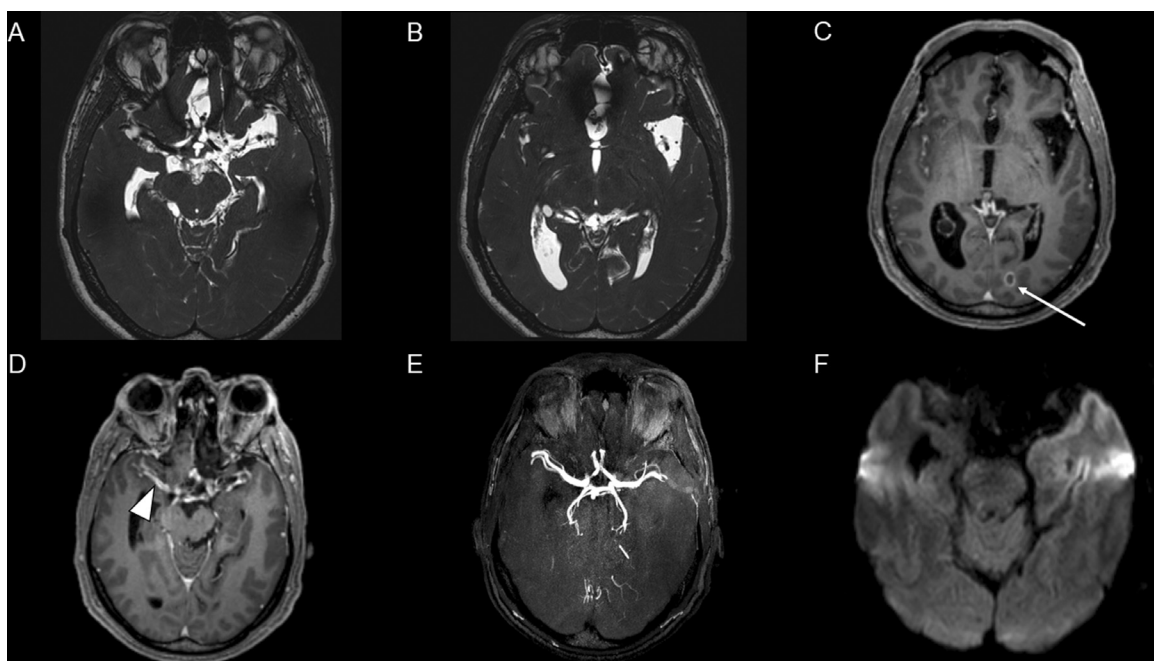


Figure 1 Axial Fast Imaging Employing Steady-state Acquisition (FIESTA) images (A and B): cystic lesions in the subarachnoid space. Axial T1 post-contrast (C and D): a nodular lesion with peripheral contrast enhancement in the left calcarine region (arrow) and leptomeningeal enhancement (arrowhead). The MIP axial TOF MRA and DWI images (E and F) showed no significant abnormalities. Abbreviations: DWI, Diffusion-weighted imaging; MIP, Maximum Intensity Projection; MRA, Magnetic Resonance Angiography; TOF, Time-Of-Flight.

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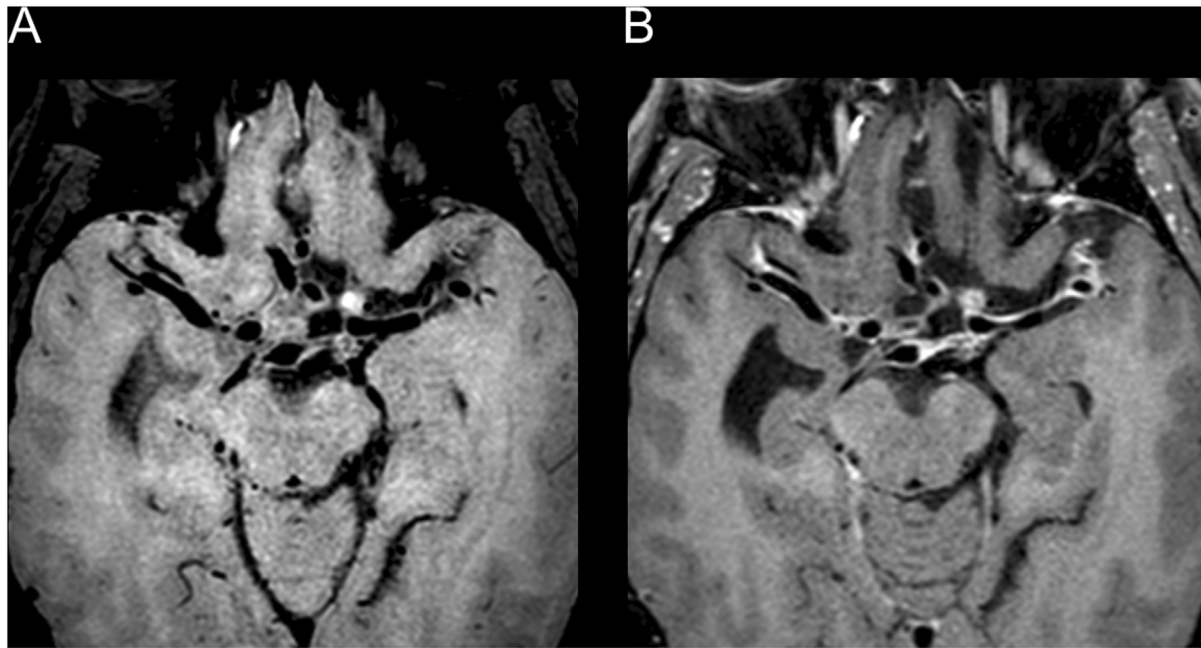


Figure 2 Axial HR-VWI pre (A) and post-contrast (B) demonstrate smooth enhancement in both M1 middle cerebral arteries.

A 42-year-old man with neurocysticercosis, presented headache and visual blurring. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and HR-VWI scans were performed, as demonstrated in ►Figures 1 and 2, respectively. The findings contribute to the pathophysiology of the disease, by demonstrating concentric and irregular wall enhancement (vasculitis). The degree of vessel involvement correlates with the severity of disease stage,¹ and was demonstrated in other infections, such as syphilis,⁴ and tuberculosis,^{1,5} but not in neurocysticercosis.

Authors' Contributions

LFMB: conceptualization, data curation, investigation, writing-original draft; DSL: conceptualization, data curation, investigation; EON: conceptualization, visualization, writing-review & editing; MCR, FR: conceptualization, formal analysis, project administration, visualization, writing-review & editing.

Conflict of Interest

The authors have no conflict of interests to declare.

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