The Sistine Chapel and clothesline signs: a tale of two arteries

O sinal da Capela Sistina e sinal do varal: um conto sobre duas artérias

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An 83-year-old woman presented sudden vertigo, drop attack, and transient dysarthria after head hyperextension to see the Sistine Chapel ceiling, in the Vatican. Transcranial doppler ultrasound (►Figure 1) suggested proximal basilar artery stenosis, confirmed by arteriography (►Figure 2). Case 2: A 77-year-old woman presented a 1-year history of transient vertigo after hanging clothes on a clothesline. Transcranial doppler ultrasound (►Figure 3) revealed left subclavian artery steal phenomenon secondary to proximal subclavian artery stenosis, confirmed by arteriography (►Figure 4). They received stenting and dual antiplatelet therapy. Transient ischemic symptomatology triggered by head/neck and arm movements demands vertebrobasilar and subclavian evaluation.1–3

Authors’ Contributions
LC: Organization and execution of the research project, writing of the first draft and of the final manuscript; JMTM, ERO, CEFM, JCS, JAM, VHFZ, MCL, CAE, PCES: organization and execution of the research project, writing of the first draft of the manuscript; HAGT: conception.

Figure 1 Transcranial Doppler show signs of segmental increase in flow velocity in the proximal basilar artery, compatible with basilar artery stenosis.

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Conflict of Interest
The author have no conflict of interests to declare.

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