

A patient with left hemiparesis, seizure, and developmental delay on admission

To the Editor

I would like to comment on a recent neurosciences quiz published by Faruk et al.¹ Dyke Davidoff Masson syndrome refers to hemiatrophy/hypoplasia of one cerebral hemisphere secondary to brain insult in early childhood. Before the era of modern imaging methods, it was discussed purely on the basis of simple plain skull x-ray in an anterior-posterior view and consisted of the following triad: thickening of the calvarium, dilatation of the ipsilateral frontal and ethmoidal sinuses, and elevation of the greater wing of the sphenoid and petrous ridge with upward tilting of the planum-sphenoidale. These findings were thought to be because of a compensatory phenomenon due to the relative vacuum created by the hypoplastic cerebrum. In the past, as Neurology residents we were fascinated by the above findings when encountered with childhood hemiplegic patients, however, at present it is no longer used either to diagnose or teach medical students. Therefore, such radiological findings have become obsolete nowadays, and need not be discussed.

Riaz A. Syed

Mohmed T. Nadeem

*Department of Child Neurology
King Fahad Armed Forces Hospital
Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia*

Reply from the Author

We thank Drs. Syed and Nadeem for their comments and sharing their knowledge. However, these modern imaging tests cannot be performed in every center, and for this reason we feel that the classical literature should be known.

Faruk Incecik

*Department of Pediatric Neurology
Cukurova University
Balcali Hospital
Adana, Turkey*

References

1. Incecik F, Herguner MO. A patient with left hemiparesis, seizure, and developmental delay on admission. *Neurosciences* 2009; 14: 107-108.

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