

## Subarachnoid Hemorrhage Associated with an Intrathecal Catheter: Case Report

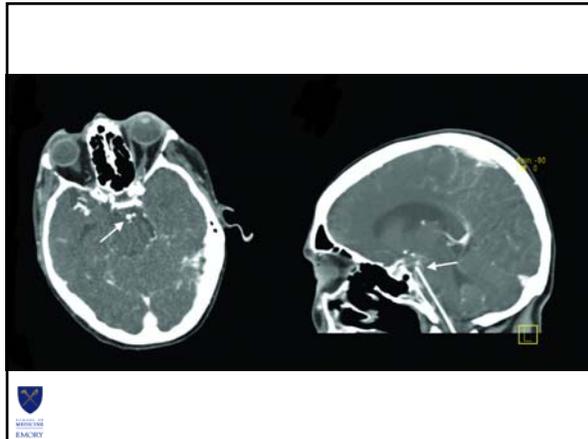
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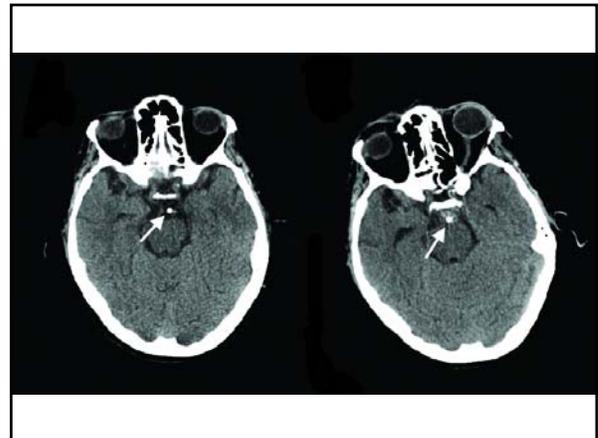
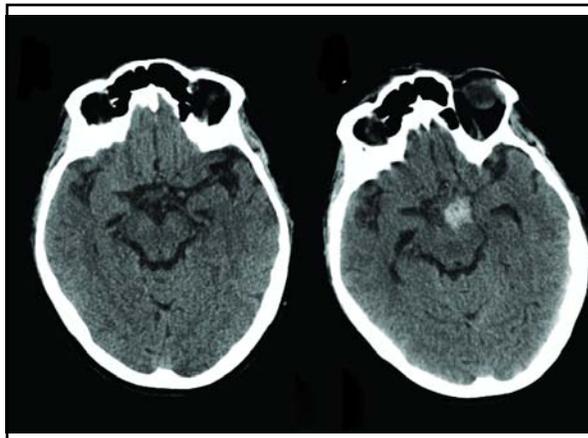
### Patient History

- 61 y/o woman with an intrathecal morphine pump for failed back syndrome presented with recurrent pain and intermittent loss of consciousness
- Evaluation showed the catheter extended into the prepontine space



### Patient History

- Presented with sudden onset of a severe headache at 69 y/o
- Head CT revealed perimesencephalic subarachnoid hemorrhage
- Left partial cranial nerve III palsy (non reactive pupil)
- Negative CT angiography, four-vessel catheter angiography, and MRI



## Non-aneurysmal subarachnoid hemorrhage

- No identifiable cause in 15 to 20% of subarachnoid hemorrhage cases
- Perimesencephalic pattern is common
- Rupture of small vein or capillary, intramural basilar artery dissection, arteriovenous malformations



## Catheter Migration

- Uncommon complication of intrathecal drug delivery systems
- CSF flow currents may cause upward migration of catheter components
- Neurologic symptoms, pain, nausea and vomiting, direct parenchymal injury, and subarachnoid hemorrhage



## Conclusions

- Intrathecal catheters may cause vascular injury
- Nonaneurysmal perimesencephalic subarachnoid hemorrhage may be due to injury of small blood vessels



## References

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