A 33-year-old woman presented with occasional mild nonlateralized headache. Examination was normal. Brain MRI revealed a neuroglial cyst in the right hemisphere which expanded slowly but relentlessly over subsequent years (figure 1; figure e-1 on the Neurology® Web site at www.neurology.org). At the last MRI, the lesion produced considerable mass effect, but the patient’s examination was still normal. She refused surgery. Neuroglial cysts are uncommon congenital lesions. Unlike the more common arachnoid cysts, they are located within brain parenchyma and arise from remnants of embryonic neural tube elements, sequestered in the developing white matter. Most neuroglial cysts remain stable in size. Minimal but persistent intracystic CSF secretion may explain cyst expansion over time.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS
Dr. Raz: manuscript drafting and literature research. Dr. D’Ambrosio: revising the manuscript for intellectual content. Dr. Fiorelli: manuscript drafting and revising the manuscript for intellectual content.

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Teaching NeuroImages: A slowly growing benign brain mass
Eytan Raz, Ferdinando D’Ambrosio and Marco Fiorelli
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