Teaching NeuroImages: Carotid body tumor as a novel cause of cerebral ischemic stroke

Davinia Larrosa, MD
Juan Vega, MD
Lorena Benavente, MD
César Ramón, MD
Sergio Calleja, MD, PhD
Julio Pascual, MD, PhD

An 83-year-old man presented with drowsiness, dysarthria, anosognosia, forced right gaze deviation and left hemianopia, hemiplegia, and hemianesthesia consistent with a right hemispheric stroke. A painless, nonpulsatile, right cervical mass was noted. CT angiography demonstrated a right carotid body tumor (CBT) occluding the ipsilateral internal carotid artery (figure) and a fetal-type right posterior cerebral artery. Other etiologies of stroke were excluded. CBTs are rare. They usually affect middle-aged patients with chronic hypoxia and present as a cervical mass with lower cranial nerve palsies. CBTs completely surrounding the internal carotid artery should be included among the uncommon causes of stroke.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS
D. Larrosa: conceptualization, bibliographic review, and manuscript elaboration. J. Vega: CT angiography images elaboration and figure design. L. Benavente: conceptualization, bibliographic review, and manuscript elaboration. C. Ramón: manuscript conceptualization. S. Calleja: manuscript conceptualization. J. Pascual: manuscript review.

REFERENCES

From the Service of Neurology, University Hospital “Central de Asturias,” Oviedo, Spain.
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