An 83-year-old woman presented with acute aphasia. Brain MRI, performed 3 hours after symptom onset, showed isolated fluid-attenuated inversion recovery vascular hyperintensities (FVH) in the left middle cerebral artery, including dot-like and serpentine hyperintensities, were seen in the middle cerebral artery branches. There were no abnormalities on diffusion-weighted or gradient echo images or magnetic resonance angiography. After aphasia resolution, the MRI showed FVH disappearance (C, D).

Only 20% of TIA patients showed FVH when MRI was performed within 24 hours. Because FVH in this case were transient and correlated with symptom resolution, the prior report may have underestimated the true frequency of their occurrence.

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