VIDEO Ping-pong gaze in hemifield may indicate bilateral asymmetrical hemispheric lesions

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A 65-year-old man was found unresponsive at home. Initially, he showed ping-pong gaze only in the right hemifield, which subsequently involved the whole field 2 days later (see video). Other findings included esotropia and bilaterally positive Babinski sign. Diffusion-weighted MRI demonstrated acute infarctions in the right medial frontal and left fronto-temporo-parietal lobes (figure). During the progression of brain herniation, ping-pong gaze changed to fixed gaze deviation to the left, and then to fixed gaze in the midline. Ping-pong gaze in hemifield may result from asymmetric disruption of the cortical inhibitory pathways to the brainstem due to bilateral asymmetric hemispheric lesions.^{1,2}

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Figure. Diffusion-weighted MRI demonstrates acute infarctions in the right medial frontal and left fronto-temporo-parietal lobes.

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