Teaching NeuroImages:

Falsely disappearing stroke secondary to isodense subdural hematoma

Yuebing Li, MD, PhD
Gary Clauser, MD
Donna Jenny, RN
John Castaldo, MD

Address correspondence and
reprint requests to Dr. Yuebing
Li, Division of Neurology,
Department of Medicine, Lehigh
Valley Health Network, 1250
South Cedar Crest Boulevard,
Suite 405, Allentown, PA 18103
Yuebing.Li@lvh.com

Figure Brain imaging

Axial CT at initial admission (A), on day 4 (B), and on day 6 (C), and (D) axial MRI showing the coexistence of an old ischemic infarction and a developing subdural hematoma.

A 59-year-old man presented with a fall. His initial CT scan showed an old infarction in the right frontal lobe (figure, A) and scattered subarachnoid hemorrhage (not shown). The infarction disappeared (figure, B) on a repeat CT on day 4 of admission, and reappeared on day 6 (figure, C). The presence of a

newly developing isodense subdural hematoma was noted on the second CT (figure, B, arrows), which was verified on MRI (figure, D). Development of isodense subdural hematoma may obscure previously existent ischemic foci and should be considered especially for patients without previous imaging.

From the Division of Neurology, Department of Medicine, Lehigh Valley Hospital and Health Network, Allentown, PA.

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Yuebing Li, Gary Clauser, Donna Jenny, et al.

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