Figure 1. Bloody arrow in the left sylvian fissure.

Arrow sign in MCA trifurcation aneurysm

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An 80-year-old woman had a thunderclap headache. CT scan revealed blood in the left sylvian fissure. The clot took the form of

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Figure 2. Four-vessel DSA shows a left MCA trifurcation aneurysm.

an arrow (figure 1). Four-vessel digital subtraction angiography (DSA) showed a 7 mm left middle cerebral artery (MCA) trifurcation aneurysm (figure 2). The aneurysm was subsequently coiled.

The pattern of blood in the subarachnoid space on CT scan could indicate the location of the underlying aneurysm. In MCA aneurysms, hemorrhage predominates in the sylvian fissure. In this patient the arrow configuration was formed by seepage of blood between the insula and the frontal and temporal opercula of the sylvian cistern near the MCA trifurcation.¹

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