References


NeuroImages

Intracranial hypotension with air bubble on head CT

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A 19-year-old woman presented with a retro-orbital, throbbing postural headache to the emergency room 3 days after giving birth by vaginal delivery. The headache began approximately 12 hours after delivery but significantly worsened 24 to 48 hours later. Epidural analgesia had been given during labor for pain control. There was no prior history of headaches, and medical history was nonsignificant. She was afebrile and results of neurologic examination were normal. A diagnosis of intracranial hypotension was made based on the history and presence of an air bubble in the ventricle, indicating that the subarachnoid space had been entered. Placement of a blood patch rapidly alleviated the symptoms.

Figure. Noncontrast head CT scan is without evidence of infarction, hemorrhage, or mass effect. Note small air bubble (arrow) located in the anterior horn of the right lateral ventricle.

See also page 1694

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