Multiple stable fusiform intracranial aneurysms following atrial myxoma

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A 33-year-old woman presented in 1989 with multiple embolic strokes from a left atrial myxoma. Eight years later, magnetic resonance angiography showed multiple fusiform aneurysms that have been stable on yearly imaging studies, and the patient currently remains asymptomatic (figure, A through F).

Fusiform aneurysms have been reported as a neurologic complication of atrial myxoma.1,2 The natural history of these aneurysms is unknown. Given the invasion of the vascular intima by myxoma tumor cells, these aneurysms may be flimsy and endovascular or surgical treatments may be particularly risky. The stability of these aneurysms in our patient over a 7 to 15 year period argues for conservative management.

Figure. T1 pre- (A), T1 post-Gadolinium (B), and T2 (C) MRI images showing enhancing structures in the area of the left and right middle cerebral arteries. Magnetic resonance angiography images of the Circle of Willis (D), left (E), and right (F) middle cerebral arteries show that these structures represent fusiform dilatation of these arteries (arrows).

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Journal of Neurology 2005;64;526
DOI 10.1212/01.WNL.0000145838.61057.E8

This information is current as of February 7, 2005

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