A 31-year-old man who had been shot with a nail gun was unresponsive at presentation, with unequal, nonreactive pupils. The frontal sinus and right frontal pole were debrided emergently. The 6.5-cm nail was left in the midbrain and cerebellar vermis. He extubated himself on day 3, was verbally responsive, and was alert but confused. CT angiogram showed the nail entering the midbrain just above the basilar bifurcation (figure 1), with its initial trajectory just above the circle of Willis (figure 2). One month later, he exhibited slow mentation, dysarthria, and internuclear ophthalmoplegia, but was infection free, fully awake, alert, oriented, and ambulating with assistance.

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