A 55-year-old man presented in a global confusional state and after 24 hours fell into deep coma. Laboratory findings, including alcohol level, were normal. MRI showed abnormalities typical of Wernicke encephalopathy (figure).\textsuperscript{1,2} Thiamine was administered immediately, but the patient died 2 weeks later. The diagnosis was confirmed by measurement of blood thiamine level (19.3 ng/mL; normal range 27.2–42.2), obtained after initiation of treatment. Nonalcoholic Wernicke encephalopathy is probably underestimated; typical radiologic manifestations allow diagnosis.\textsuperscript{2} Cortical involvement is indicative of irreversible lesions with poor prognosis.\textsuperscript{2} Thiamine should be administered to reduce risk of clinical worsening.

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