A 36-year-old man with a history of hypertension and atrial fibrillation presented with acute vertigo and imbalance. Neurologic examination revealed ataxic gait and ageotropic positional nystagmus during head-turning while supine. Other findings of the neurologic examination were normal. MRI showed bilateral nodular infarction. Central positional nystagmus mostly develops in lesions involving the brainstem or cerebellum. Isolated nodular infarction may show spontaneous horizontal, periodic alternating, post-head-shaking, and positional nystagmus in addition to imbalance. Ageotropic central positional nystagmus may be a manifestation of nodular infarction and should be differentiated from benign positional vertigo involving the horizontal semicircular canal.

Jungmoo Nam, MD, Seonhye Kim, MD, Youngeun Huh, MD, and Ji Soo Kim, MD, PhD, Seoul, Republic of Korea

Supported by a grant of the Korea Health 21 R&D Project, Ministry of Health & Welfare, Republic of Korea (A080750).

Disclosure: Dr. Nam, Dr. S. Kim, and Dr. Huh report no disclosures. Dr. J.S. Kim serves as an Associate Editor of the Journal of Korean Neurological Association and on the editorial board of the Journal of Korean Society for Clinical Neurophysiology.

Address correspondence and reprint requests to Dr. Ji Soo Kim, Department of Neurology, Seoul National University College of Medicine, Seoul National University Bundang Hospital, 300 Gumi-dong, Bundang-gu, Seongnam-si, Gyeonggi-do, 463-707, Korea; jisookkim@snu.ac.kr

Ageotropic central positional nystagmus in nodular infarction
Jungmoo Nam, Seonhye Kim, Youngeun Huh, et al.
Neurology 2009;73;1163
DOI 10.1212/WNL.0b013e3181bacfde

This information is current as of October 5, 2009

Updated Information & Services
including high resolution figures, can be found at:
http://n.neurology.org/content/73/14/1163.full

Supplementary Material
Supplementary material can be found at:
http://n.neurology.org/content/suppl/2009/10/04/73.14.1163.DC1

References
This article cites 2 articles, 1 of which you can access for free at:
http://n.neurology.org/content/73/14/1163.full#ref-list-1

Citations
This article has been cited by 2 HighWire-hosted articles:
http://n.neurology.org/content/73/14/1163.full##otherarticles

Subspecialty Collections
This article, along with others on similar topics, appears in the following collection(s):
Infarction
http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/infarction
Nystagmus
http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/nystagmus
Vertigo
http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/vertigo

Permissions & Licensing
Information about reproducing this article in parts (figures, tables) or in its entirety can be found online at:
http://www.neurology.org/about/about_the_journal#permissions

Reprints
Information about ordering reprints can be found online:
http://n.neurology.org/subscribers/advertise