A 50-year-old man developed right upper extremity weakness after a violent coughing spell. Imaging studies (figure 1, A and B) demonstrated a large fluid-filled calvarial defect containing herniated brain near the level of the motor cortex. The brain tissue which was “strangulated” by ossified dura while protruding into the calvarial defect was decompressed (figure 2), with resultant substantial progressive though incomplete clinical improvement. Intradiploic encephaloceles are rare.1 We hypothesize that, in our patient, the paroxysmal increase in intracranial pressure associated with the violent cough resulted in further herniation of the brain already protruding through a defect, resulting in his symptoms.

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