Teaching NeuroImages: Massive cerebral edema after CT myelography
An optical illusion

A 74-year-old woman underwent myelography with iohexol to exclude a CSF leak. Three days later, her son noticed mild facial asymmetry and took her back to the hospital. Neurologic status was at baseline except for minimal left nasolabial flattening. Initial head CT appeared to show diffuse cerebral edema (figure, A), but the following morning the appearance had normalized (figure, B). Based on the spontaneous clinicoradiologic improvement, we hypothesize that an illusion of cerebral edema was caused by residual iohexol. Although not reported with iohexol, older agents can cause hyperdense gray matter and can accumulate in sulci.1

STUDY FUNDING
No targeted funding reported.

DISCLOSURE
The authors report no disclosures relevant to the manuscript. Go to Neurology.org for full disclosures.

REFERENCE

Noncontrast CT scan at presentation (A) shows loss of the sulcal pattern and gray-white distinction, relatively decreased attenuation of the white matter, deep gray structures, and brainstem, and effacement of the basal cisterns and fourth ventricle. Repeat noncontrast CT scan (B) shows marked improvement. Also evident are bilateral deep brain stimulator leads and an old right retinal detachment.
Teaching NeuroImages: Massive cerebral edema after CT myelography: An optical illusion
Hugo Botha, Samuel A. Moore and Alejandro A. Rabinstein
Neurology 2014;83:e170
DOI 10.1212/WNL.0000000000000946

This information is current as of October 27, 2014

Updated Information & Services
including high resolution figures, can be found at:
http://n.neurology.org/content/83/18/e170.full

Supplementary Material
Supplementary material can be found at:
http://n.neurology.org/content/suppl/2014/10/25/WNL.0000000000000946.DC1

References
This article cites 1 articles, 0 of which you can access for free at:
http://n.neurology.org/content/83/18/e170.full#ref-list-1

Subspecialty Collections
This article, along with others on similar topics, appears in the following collection(s):
Cerebrospinal Fluid
http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/cerebrospinal_fluid
Critical care
http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/critical_care
CT
http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/ct

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

Neurology © is the official journal of the American Academy of Neurology. Published continuously since 1951, it is now a weekly with 48 issues per year. Copyright © 2014 American Academy of Neurology. All rights reserved. Print ISSN: 0028-3878. Online ISSN: 1526-632X.