Disseminated cysticercosis

An 18-year-old boy presented with headaches, vomiting, recurrent seizures, and altered sensorium. He had extensive muscle hypertrophy on examination. MRI revealed multiple cysts in different stages in brain parenchyma, scalp, extraocular muscles, neck, chest wall, abdominal wall, paraspinal, gluteal, pelvic, and limb muscles (figure). The patient received steroids and antiepileptic drugs and had a good recovery. The patient is seizure-free at 6 months. In disseminated neurocysticercosis, symptoms are related to space-occupying effect rather than inflammation caused by dying parasites, and in this situation cysticidal drugs may exacerbate the syndrome of intracranial hypertension.1,2

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Study funding: No targeted funding reported.
Disclosure: The authors reported no disclosures relevant to the manuscript. Go to Neurology.org for full disclosures.
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Neurology 2015;84:327
DOI 10.1212/WNL.0000000000001152

This information is current as of January 19, 2015

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