Severe vasospasm in traumatic brain injury

A 45-year-old man had a severe traumatic brain injury (TBI) with multicompartamental hemorrhages (figure 1). He was initially noted to be awake and following commands with his right side. Two weeks later, his examination deteriorated to coma with flaccid quadriplegia. Initial workup, including EEG, was unrevealing. MRI brain showed new multiterritorial infarcts (figure 1); a catheter-based angiogram confirmed severe vasospasm in several large vessels (figure 2).

Vasospasm following TBI has been previously described as underrecognized because it is often clinically silent, and typically occurring in the first several days when symptomatic. Late and extreme cases, as above, are rarely described.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS
Dr. Reznik: study design, analysis/interpretation of the data, drafting/revising the manuscript. Dr. Saeed: analysis/interpretation of the data, revising the manuscript. Dr. Shutter: study design, analysis/interpretation of the data.

STUDY FUNDING
No targeted funding reported.

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

REFERENCES
Catheter-based angiogram shows severe vasospasm of the basilar (A), bilateral posterior cerebral (A), right internal carotid (B), and left internal carotid arteries (C).
Teaching NeuroImages: Severe vasospasm in traumatic brain injury
Michael Reznik, Yumna Saeed and Lori Shutter
*Neurology* 2016;86:e132-e133
DOI 10.1212/WNL.0000000000002482

This information is current as of March 21, 2016

**Updated Information & Services**
including high resolution figures, can be found at:
http://n.neurology.org/content/86/12/e132.full

**Supplementary Material**
Supplementary material can be found at:
http://n.neurology.org/content/suppl/2016/03/19/WNL.0000000000002482.DC1

**References**
This article cites 2 articles, 0 of which you can access for free at:
http://n.neurology.org/content/86/12/e132.full#ref-list-1

**Subspecialty Collections**
This article, along with others on similar topics, appears in the following collection(s):
*All Cerebrovascular disease/Stroke*
http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/all_cerebrovascular_disease_stroke
*Brain trauma*
http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/brain_trauma
*Critical care*
http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/critical_care
*Infarction*
http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/infarction
*Other cerebrovascular disease/Stroke*
http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/other_cerebrovascular_disease__stroke

**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 © 2016 American Academy of Neurology. All rights reserved. Print ISSN: 0028-3878. Online ISSN: 1526-632X.