A 65-year-old woman presented with chronic lingering headache and REM sleep behavior disorder (RBD). Head MRI (figure) showed spontaneous intracranial hypotension (SIH) with deep brain swelling (DBS), and CSF opening pressure was low. She was treated with lumbar epidural blood patch. Within 3 months, she became asymptomatic with improvement of brain sagging. Since SIH with DBS is related to brain sagging with deformity of the diencephalon and midbrain and since focal brain lesions may cause RBD, distortion and dysfunction of REM sleep circuits in this patient may be caused by DBS. RBD expands the clinical spectrum of SIH.

Maria Salsone, MD,* Dania Salvino, MD,* Maria R. Mazza, MD, Laura Mumoli, MD, Caterina Bombardieri, MD, Aldo Quattrone, MD, Francesco Bono, MD

*These authors contributed equally to this work.

From the Headache Group, Institutes of Neurology (D.S., M.R.M., L.M., A.Q., F.B.) and Neuroradiology (C.B.), Department of Medical and Surgical Sciences, Magna Graecia University of Catanzaro; and the Neuroimaging Research Unit (M.S., A.Q., F.B.), Institute of Bioimaging and Molecular Physiology, National Research Council, Catanzaro, Italy.

Author contributions: M. Salsone: drafting/revising the manuscript, acquisition of data, analysis/interpretation of data. D. Salvino: drafting/revising the manuscript, acquisition of data, analysis/interpretation of data. M.R. Mazza: analysis and acquisition of data. L. Mumoli: analysis and acquisition of data. C. Bombardieri: analysis and acquisition of data. A. Quattrone: revising the manuscript, interpretation of data. F. Bono: study concept and design, drafting/revising the manuscript, analysis/interpretation of data.

Study funding: No targeted funding reported.

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

Correspondence to Dr. Bono: f.bono@unicz.it

Reversible deep brain swelling causing REM behavior disorder
Maria Salsone, Dania Salvino, Maria R. Mazza, et al.
Neurology 2016;86;1360
DOI 10.1212/WNL.0000000000002548

This information is current as of April 4, 2016