The “seagull cry”

An initial sign in a child with intracranial carotid stenosis

Figure 1 Transcranial color-coded ultrasound using the temporal window

The terminal internal carotid artery is pictured in the carotid T. Mirror-image parallel strings as signs of a severe underlying stenosis. Ultrasound device: SonoSite X-Porte (FUJIFILM SonoSite, Inc., Bothell, WA); transducer: 5–1 MHz, sector-shaped.

Cuddling up to her 5-year-old daughter, the mother noticed a right-sided intracranial pulsatile musical murmur. Diagnostic workup of the formerly healthy girl confirmed a severe stenosis in the right terminal internal carotid artery but also showed contralateral stenosis of the intracranial internal carotid artery in the transcranial ultrasound. Although typical collaterals are missing so far, findings are suspicious for diagnosis of a moyamoya

Figure 2 MRI angiography: Tight stenosis of the right terminal internal carotid artery

Supplemental data
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syndrome (figures 1 and 2). The musical murmur as sign for high-flow velocity in a tight stenotic artery could be reproduced as so-called “seagull cry” in the transcranial color-coded ultrasound—acoustically and visualized by mirror-image parallel strings (figure 1; video on the *Neurology*[®] Web site at Neurology.org).¹

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