Ophthalmic artery MRI in an arteritis-related central retinal artery occlusion

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Neurology® 2018;90:188-189. doi:10.1212/WNL.0000000000004864

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Figure 1 Fundus aspect of a central retinal artery occlusion

Fundus photograph demonstrates a cherry-red spot (arrowhead) and a diffuse pallor of posterior pole.

A 45-year-old woman with a cutaneous lupus without antiphospholipid antibody, treated by prophylactic anticoagulation, presented with an acute and severe painless vision loss of the left eye. Central retinal artery occlusion (CRAO) was diagnosed on ophthalmologic examination (figure 1). MRI suggested a primitive inflammation of the ophthalmic artery (figure 2). There was no evidence of a cardiac or carotid emboli or a vasculitis. She was treated with antiaggregant without success.

In CRAO, a hypersignal diffusion of the papilla and the optic nerve on MRI has been reported,^{1,2} but direct observation of an arteritis is unusual.

Author contributions

D. Weisenburger-Lile: writing the manuscript and data collection. M. Obadia, A. Cahuzac, A. Lecler: critical revision of manuscript for intellectual content. A. Lecler: MRI acquisition. A. Cahuzac: ophthalmologic exploration.

Study funding

No targeted funding reported.

Disclosure

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

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Figure 2 MRI aspect of a primitive inflammation of the ophthalmic artery

High-resolution postcontrast T1-weighted MRI shows an enhancement and a thickening (white arrow) of the left ophthalmic artery wall. The right ophthalmic artery is normal (black arrow).

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This information is current as of January 22, 2018

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