Gold thread acupuncture for hemifacial spasm

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Figure 1 MRI maximum intensity projection and multiplanar reconstruction angiography

Right 7th and 8th nerve complex root exit zone was compressed by right posterior inferior cerebellar artery (red arrows).

A 73-year-old woman presented with a right hemifacial spasm that started approximately 24 years ago. After this first occurrence, she underwent gold thread acupuncture and microvascular decompression. She visited our department when the symptoms recurred. Brain MRI confirmed vascular compression of the right 7th and 8th nerve complex root exit zone by the posterior inferior cerebellar artery (figure 1). In addition, the T1 sagittal view showed multiple spotty low signals with a distinct border confined to the right facial region where the gold thread acupuncture was performed 24 years ago (figure 2).

Author contributions

S. Kwon: study concept and design, acquisition of data, study supervision. G. Kim: acquisition of data.

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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

T1 sagittal views (A) and T2 fluid-attenuated inversion recovery axial views (B) indicate gold thread acupuncture. Multiple spotty low signals (yellow arrows) with a distinct border confined to the right facial region where the gold thread acupuncture was performed 24 years ago are seen.

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