Teaching NeuroImages: A case of isolated hemithalamic overgrowth

Isabella Tristano, MD, Guido Cedrone, MD, Fabiana Ursitti, MD, Anna Chiarelli, MD, Davide Maria Biancone, MD, and Alberto Spalice, MD

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Correspondence

Dr. Spalice
a.spalice@tiscali.it

Figure Imaging and spectroscopy

(A) Axial T1 left thalamus overgrowth. (B) Spectroscopy: normal bilateral metabolite peaks.

A 17-month-old boy came to our attention for a left hemiparesis, without any other neurologic disorder. Brain MRI revealed a remarkable hypertrophy of the left thalamus. There were no differences with the right thalamus before and after using contrast, either a hypersignal in fluid-attenuated inversion recovery or restriction at diffusion-weighted imaging. In the same way, the spectroscopy showed normal metabolite peaks (choline and *N*-acetylaspartate)¹ (figure, A and B). This hemithalamus leaves a mark on the left anterior ventricle with a dilation of the opposite one that could explain the clinical sign.

This is a rare case according to the literature.²

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Author contributions

Isabella Tristano: study concept and design, acquisition of data, analysis and interpretation of data, study supervision. Guido Cedrone: acquisition of data, analysis and interpretation of

From the Child Neurology Division, Department of Pediatrics, "La Sapienza" University, Rome, Italy.

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