A 38-year-old woman presented with left-sided ataxia and a minor ischemic lesion of the left dorsolateral medulla was found on brain MRI. Magnetic resonance angiography was unremarkable (figure 1, A–C). A 3D fat-saturated black-blood 3T T1-weighted sequence (sampling perfection with application-optimized contrast using different flip-angle evolutions [SPACE]) revealed a mural hematoma of the V3 left vertebral artery segment, along the atlas loop (figure 2, A–C, arrows). The excellent volume coverage and mural/luminal distinction characteristics of the SPACE sequence allowed the clear depiction of vertebral artery dissection and consequent luminal stenosis, highlighting the need for high-resolution vertebral arteries imaging, particularly in young adult stroke patients.

Author contributions
Georgios Tsivgoulis: data collection, study design, drafting and revising the manuscript. Georgios N. Papadimitropoulos: drafting and revising the manuscript. Stefanos Lachanis: data collection, critical comments during manuscript revision. Lina Palaiodimou: data collection, critical comments during manuscript revision. Christina Zompola: data collection, critical comments during manuscript revision. Paschalis Zervas: data collection, critical comments during manuscript revision. Konstantinos Voumvourakis: critical comments during manuscript revision.

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**Disclosure**

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

**References**


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