Teaching NeuroImages: Internal carotid artery stenosis due to myxoma in a patient with Carney complex

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Figure Findings in a patient with Carney complex

(A) Facial pigmentation and multiple subcutaneous lentigines. (B) A left atrium myxoma (asterisk) on echocardiography. (C) Isointense mass in the left internal carotid artery (arrow) on MRI. (D) Digital subtraction angiography shows severe narrowing of the internal carotid artery with irregular filling defect. (E, F) Myxomatous matrix with stellate cells attached to the intima on pathologic evaluation (hematoxylin & eosin staining, ×200) of surgical specimen.

A 50-year-old man presented with an episode of transient loss of consciousness, aphasia, and right hemiparesis. Spotty cutaneous pigmentation and multiple subcutaneous lentigines were observed (figure, A). A left atrial myxoma protruding into the ventricle was identified on echocardiography (figure, B). MRI demonstrated isointense mass within the lumen of the left internal carotid artery (figure, C), and digital subtraction angiography demonstrated irregular intraluminal filling defect that resulted in severe stenosis (figure, D). Pathologic examination confirmed the diagnosis of carotid artery myxoma (figure, E and F). The combination of skin pigmentation and multiple myxomas met the criteria for Carney complex.1,2

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