

Teaching Video NeuroImages: An unusual case of fulminant subacute sclerosing panencephalitis

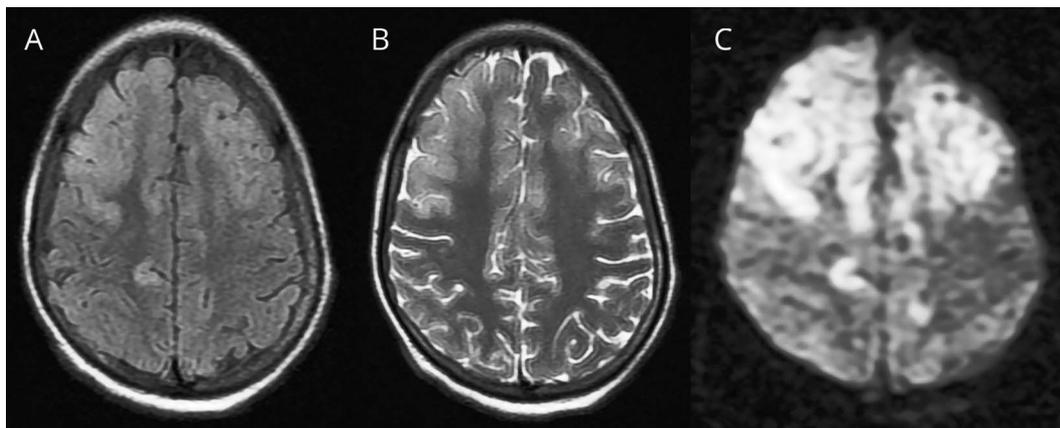
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Figure Imaging



(A) Fluid-attenuated inversion recovery, (B) T2, and (C) diffusion-weighted images show hyperintensities involving bilateral frontal lobes.

A 15-year-old girl had abnormal behavior of 3 weeks duration. There was frequent eye blinking (eyelid myoclonus) and periodic movements of right lower limb (video 1). The patient had measles at 1 year of age. MRI brain showed bilateral frontal hyperintensities (figure). CSF was normal and negative for herpes simplex, varicella-zoster, Japanese encephalitis, dengue, and Epstein-Barr viruses and NMDA receptor encephalitis. CSF demonstrated increased anti-measles antibodies. We made the diagnosis of subacute sclerosing panencephalitis (SSPE).¹ She became akinetic and mute within 3 months. SSPE is characterized by cognitive decline, periodic myoclonus, and periodic electroencephalographic changes.¹ Typically patients with SSPE survive for 1–3 years. Our patient had a very rapid course.¹

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Author contributions

Imran Rizvi, Ravindra Kumar Garg: concept, drafting of manuscript, revision, analysis. Amita Jain: concept, drafting of manuscript, revision. Hardeep Singh Malhotra, Neeraj Kumar, Ravi Uniyal: drafting of manuscript, revision, analysis.

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Disclosure

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Reference

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