Teaching NeuroImages: Drowsiness, visual hallucination, grandiose delusion, and neologism of a 48-year-old man

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Figure 1 Neologism during ideographic handwriting

(A) Incomprehensible characters indicated by the patient to reflect “multidimensional meanings of the world.” (B) Accurate word copying with additional ideographic recreation of the word “peremptory” (red arrows).

A 48-year-old man had received embolotherapy for bronchiectasis-induced severe hemoptysis 1 week before and presented with acute drowsiness of 10 hours. Neuropsychiatric assessment revealed hypersomnolence, amnesia, confabulation, visual hallucination, grandiose delusion, anomic aphasia, and neologism during ideographic handwriting (figure 1). MRI showed acute ischemic stroke involving the thalamic region supplied by left paramedian artery^{1,2} (figure 2). Aspirin and atorvastatin were initiated. His symptoms persisted for 15 days but improved significantly with 2 mg risperidone after 1 week, and he almost fully recovered 1 month later. Visual hallucination, delusion, and ideographic neologism are atypical symptoms of single left paramedian infarct.^{1,2}

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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 Infarct of the thalamic region supplied by left paramedian artery

Acute infarction (red arrows) showing increased signal on T2 (A), diffusion-weighted imaging (B), and T1 contrast (C), and decreased signals on ADC (D).

Appendix Authors

Name	Location	Contribution
Mao Liu, MD, Dr. med	Tongji Medical College, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan	Designed the study; collected, analyzed, and interpreted the data; wrote and revised the manuscript
Jing Zhang, MD, PhD	Tongji Medical College, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan	Analyzed and interpreted the data; revised the manuscript

Appendix (continued)

Name	Location	Contribution
Yuan Yang, MD, PhD	Tongji Medical College, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan	Designed the study; interpreted the data; revised the manuscript

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