

# Medulla Compression by Bilateral Aberrant Vertebral Artery With Mild Chiari Malformation

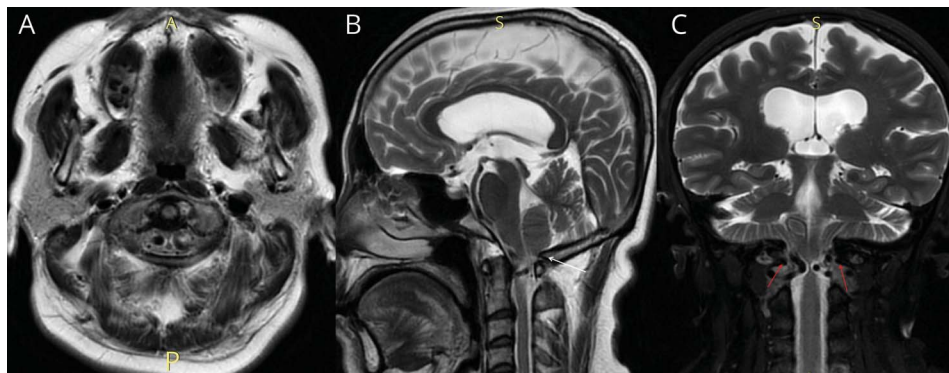
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**Figure** T2-Weighted Imaging Showing Medulla Oblongata Being Deformed Into a Cloverleaf Shape



(A) Crowding of the cervicomedullary junction consistent with (B) a mild Chiari malformation (arrow) (note the thickness of the corpus callosum and partial empty sella) and (C) the bilateral vertebral arteries aberrantly entering the spinal canal below the atlas (red arrows).

A 48-year-old woman developed progressive right lower extremity numbness and lancinating pain of right pharynx. T2-weighted MRI revealed a flow-void area that corresponded to the both aberrant vertebral arteries (persistent first intersegmental arteries) severely compressing and distorting the medulla oblongata and tonsillar herniation consistent with a mild Chiari malformation. Mild hydrocephalus was also noted with thinning of the corpus callosum and partial empty sella (figure).

Congestion at occipitocervical junction caused by bilateral vertebral artery compression may be related to Chiari malformation formation. This is an uncommon case of neurovascular compression,<sup>1</sup> characterized by hemianesthesia, variant glossopharyngeal neuralgia, and Chiari malformation.<sup>2</sup>

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## Disclosure

The authors report no disclosures relevant to the manuscript. Go to [Neurology.org/N](https://www.neurology.org/N) for full disclosures.

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## Appendix Authors

Name	Location	Contribution
<b>Zongli Han, MS</b>	Peking University Shenzhen Hospital, China	Data collection and analysis, drafted and revised the manuscript
<b>Yanli Du, MD</b>	School of Medical Technology and Nursing, Shenzhen Polytechnic, China	Designed the study, analyzed the data, drafted the manuscript
<b>Peng Hu, MD</b>	Xuanwu Hospital of Capital Medical University, China	Drafted and revised the manuscript

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## Appendix (continued)

Name	Location	Contribution
<b>Hongqi Zhang, MD</b>	Xuanwu Hospital of Capital Medical University, China	Critically reviewed and revised the manuscript

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