AUDITORY HALLUCINATIONS AS A RARE PRESENTATION OF STROKE

C. Holden, S. Hervey, M. Khan, I. Kane

Hyper-Acute Stroke Unit, Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton, UK

Case:

A 74 year old woman presented to The Royal Sussex County Hospital with speech and language problems. She had noticed and recorded periods of auditory hallucinations which she described as 'a full choir'. She was prompted to seek medical advice due to difficulties completing her usual crosswords and puzzles. She had no other significant past medical history.

Clinical

Hypertensive, auditory hallucinations and mild expressive dysphasia

CT Head

Normal

MRI Head

Acute and subacute left middle cerebral artery embolic infarcts

24 hour ECG

Atrial flutter

Anticoagulation

Apixaban

8 Week Clinic Follow-Up

Hallucinations settled

Learning Points:

- Auditory hallucinations can be caused by an acute stroke.
- Auditory hallucinations are rarely seen after cortical strokes.
- This case is a reminder of a rarer presentation of stroke, and the necessity to consider a central cardio-embolic cause.