CAPSULAR GENU SYNDROME. AN UNDERDIAGNOSED DISORDER.

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AIMS

Capsular Genu Syndrome is a forgotten entity, described by Tatemichi in 1992, which is found in patients with internal capsular genu infarction, disconnecting the thalamus from the orbito-frontal cortex. The clinical presentation varies, although patients usually show behavioral problems, abulia, amnesia, confabulations and lack of insight. Post-stroke cognitive impairment can be found in up to 1/3 of stroke survivors.

METHODS

A report of two cases assisted in our reference area in 2017

RESULTS

We present two males, A and B, both previously independent and with vascular risk factors. A: 72 years-old man with a previous frontal ictus in 2016, independent after discharge. He developed sudden behaviour changes, with irritability, mood oscillations, apathy and hyporexia. He didn't show any other neurologic deficits, so at first he was labelled as a confusional syndrome. In a brain CT-scan we found a new stroke in the anterior limb of the left internal capsule and thalamus. B: 77 years-old man who after a fall started being abstracted, having episodic memory failures, sleeping disorders and spatial disorientation. In the brain CT-scan was found a lacunar lesion in the right capsular genu.

CONCLUSIONS

Strategic strokes can induce acute cognitive impairment and in some occasions can be misunderstood as a confusional syndrome. These results emphasize the importance of lesion location and the necessity of an assessment of cognition in these cases.

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