

CASE REPORT

‘Humming Bird Sign’, ‘Mickey Mouse Sign’, and ‘Morning Glory Sign’ in progressive supranuclear palsy.

A Case Report with review of literature.

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Abstract

Progressive nuclear palsy is a form of neurodegenerative disorder, often named as Steele–Richardson–Olszewski syndrome. We report a case of dysarthria, gait disturbances, multiple gaze palsies with classical MRI signs like ‘Humming bird sign’, the ‘Mickey mouse sign’, and the ‘Morning glory sign’.

Keywords: Humming bird sign, Mickey Mouse sign, midbrain atrophy, Morning glory sign, Penguin sign, progressive supranuclear palsy, Steele–Richardson–Olszewski syndrome

Introduction

Progressive supranuclear palsy (PSP) is also known as Steele–Richardson–Olszewski syndrome, it's a form of neurodegenerative disorder. We present a case with classical signs of PSP.

Case Report

52 year old female patient was referred to our dept for MRI BRAIN with the complaints of dysarthria, gait disturbances and multiple gaze palsies. MRI showed classical signs like the ‘Humming bird sign’, the ‘Mickey mouse sign’, and the ‘Morning glory sign’.

Discussion

The prevalence of PSP is 5 to 10 % in 1,00,000 population with a mean age of presentation around 6th to 7th decade of life. The Humming bird sign [1,2] (aka penguin sign), Mickey Mouse sign [2,3] (Morning glory sign) are the classical signs of PSP. Parkinson's disease, multisystem atrophy, corticobasal ganglionic degeneration and dementia will also have morning glory sign but the classical mid brain atrophy will spare or predominantly effect mid brain, ratio of mid brain to pons area, poor response to dopaminergic agents and cerebral peduncle with or without cortical atrophy [4].

However, the clinical features should be correlated with radiological findings [5].

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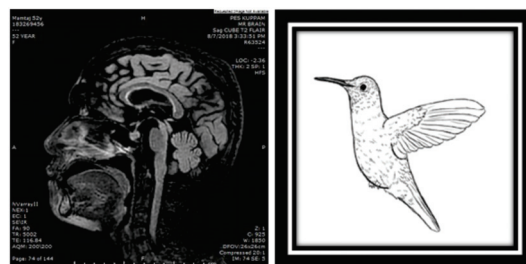


Fig. 1: Mid sagittal FLAIR MRI of the brain showing midbrain tegmental atrophy without pontine atrophy giving the impression of head and body of a hummingbird.

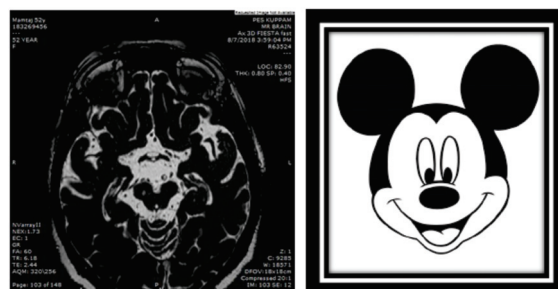


Fig. 2: Axial FIESTA of the brain showing selective atrophy of the midbrain tegmentum with relative preservation of tectum and cerebral peduncles resembling the head of Mickey Mouse



Fig 3 : Axial FIESTA of the brain showing increased lateral concavity of the midbrain tegmentum resembling morning glory. Red arrow in the pictorial representation explains the lateral concavity.

The treatment for PSP is purely symptomatic.

Conclusion

Oculomotor signs with a tendency to fall are the current criteria as per the national institute of neurological disorders and stroke and society for progressive supranuclear palsy. FP-CIT-SPECT and IBZM-SPECT will help in the narrowing the differential diagnosis.

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