



MRI AS A PRIMARY IMAGING TOOL IN ACUTE STROKE

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DISCLOSURE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL INTEREST

Within the past 12 months, I or my spouse have no financial interest/arrangement or affiliation with any organization other than those I work at

AFFILIATION/FINANCIAL RELATIONSHIP

- Grant/Research Support
- Consulting Fees/Honoraria
- Major Stock Shareholder/Equity
- Royalty Income
- Ownership/Founder
- Intellectual Property Rights
- Other Financial Benefit

COMPANY

- Nil

Background

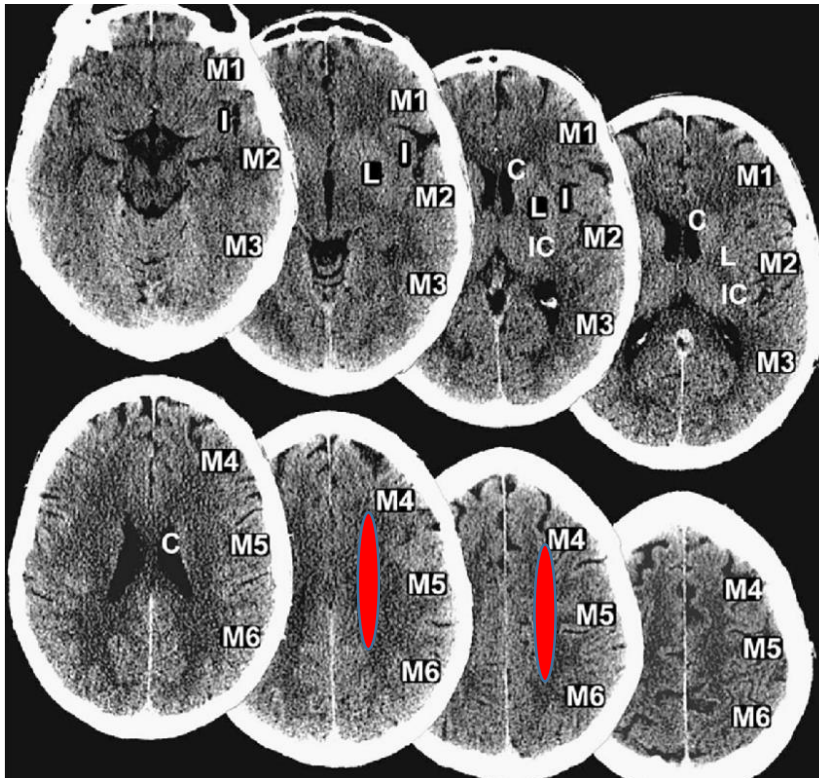
Concerns in Acute Stroke Imaging

- Infarct Core
- Penumbra
- State of the Collaterals
- Risk of hemorrhage
- Presence and length of thrombus
- Mimics

Infarct core

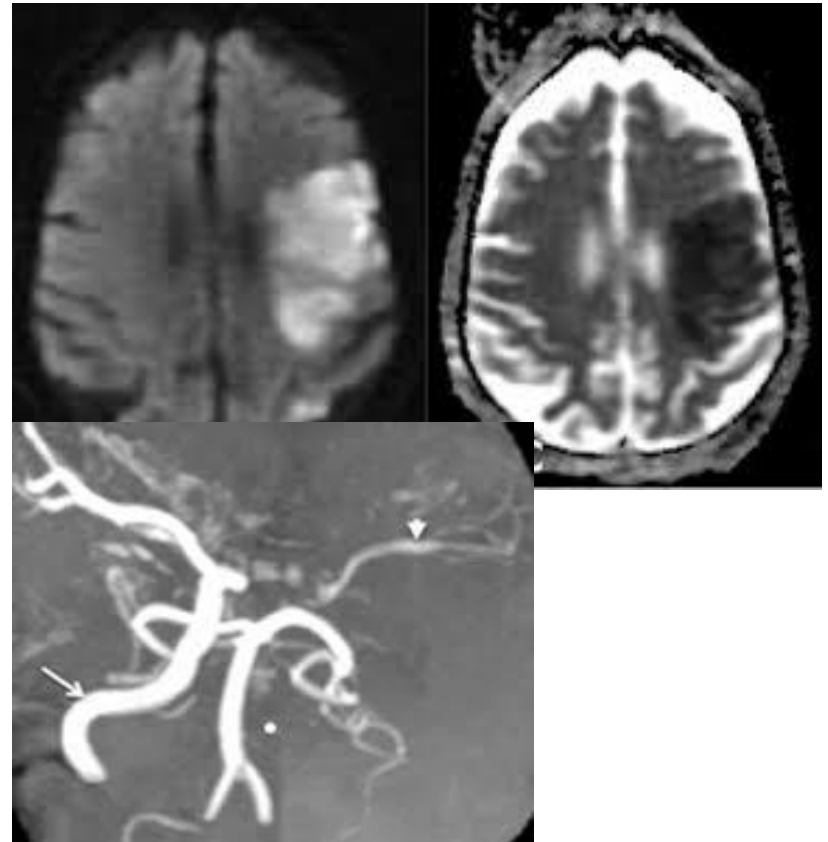
CT

- ASPECTS



MRI

- DWI



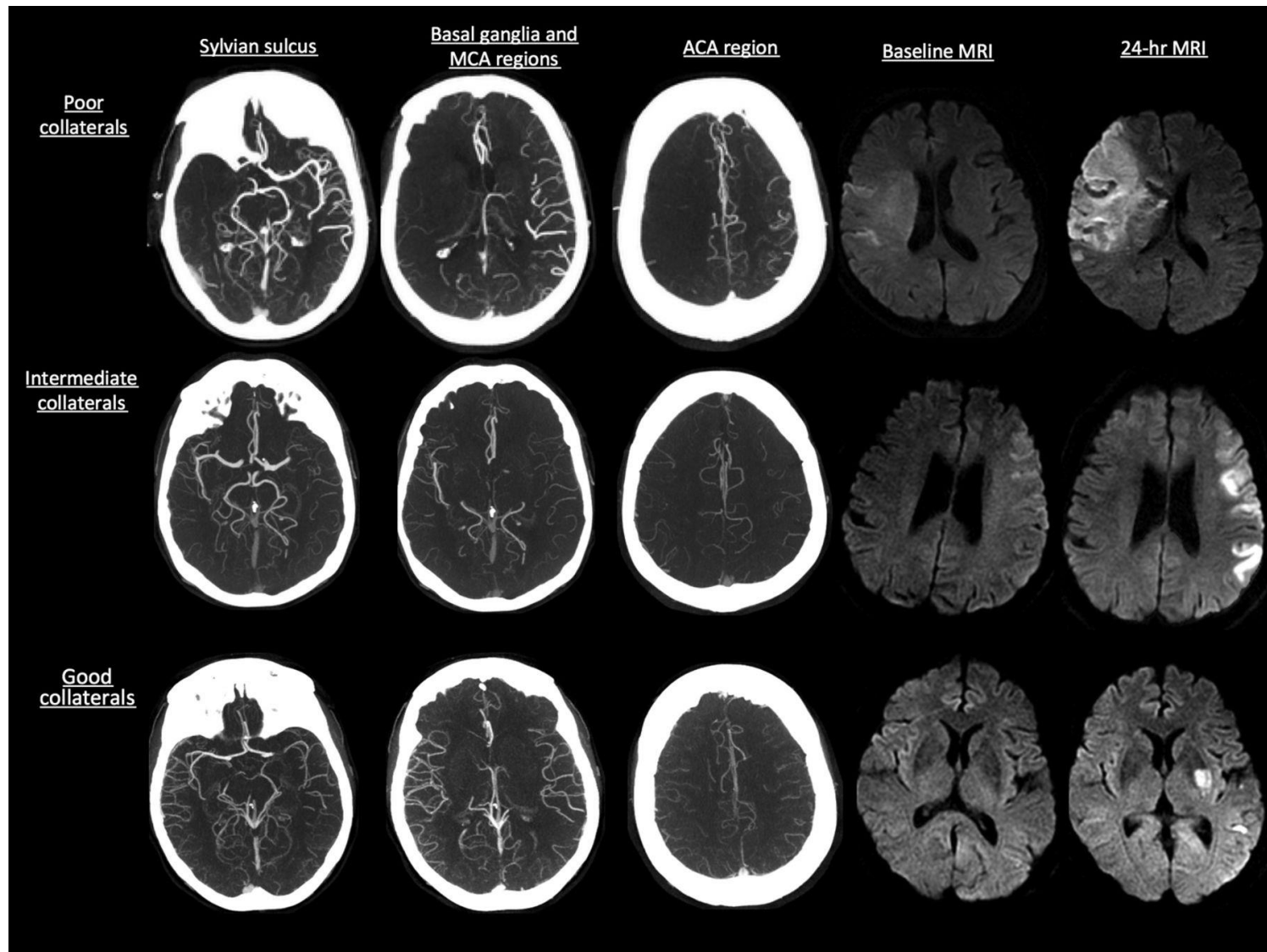
Penumbra

CT

- Negative CT for acute infarct
 - - Presumption
 - - CTA required or CT Perfusion
- ASPECTS > 7 – can proceed for thrombolysis
- ICA occlusion related deep perforator infarct can be missed

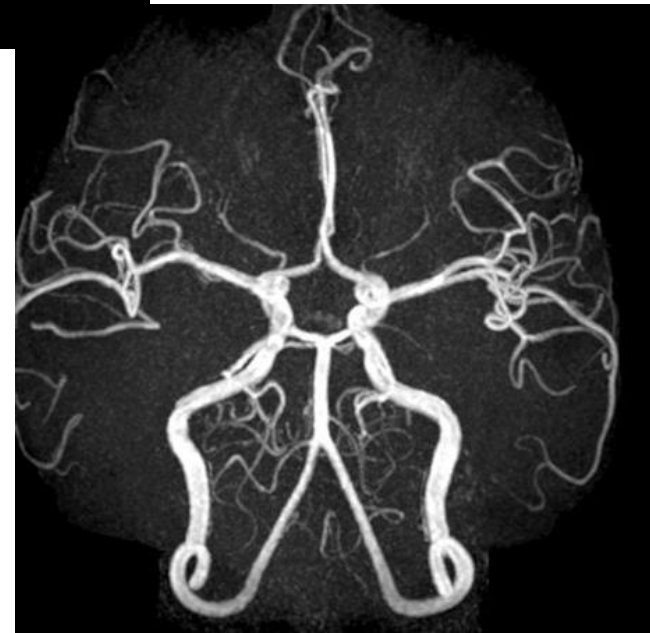
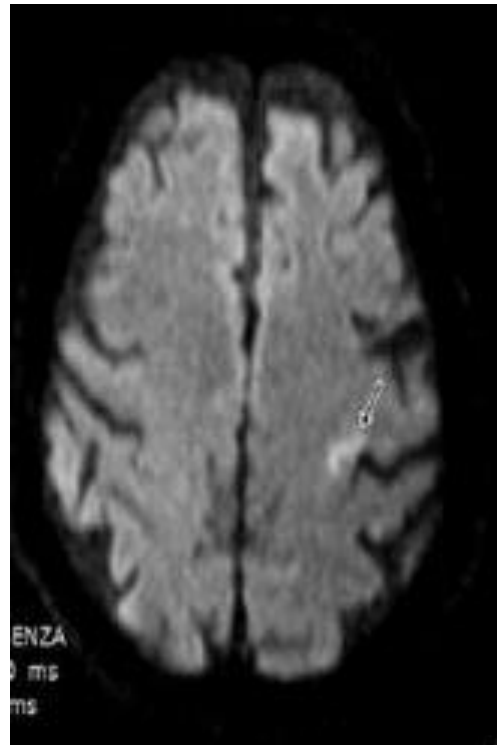
MRI

- Volume of acute infarct which cannot be salvaged can be identified
- Smaller the volume, better the outcomes

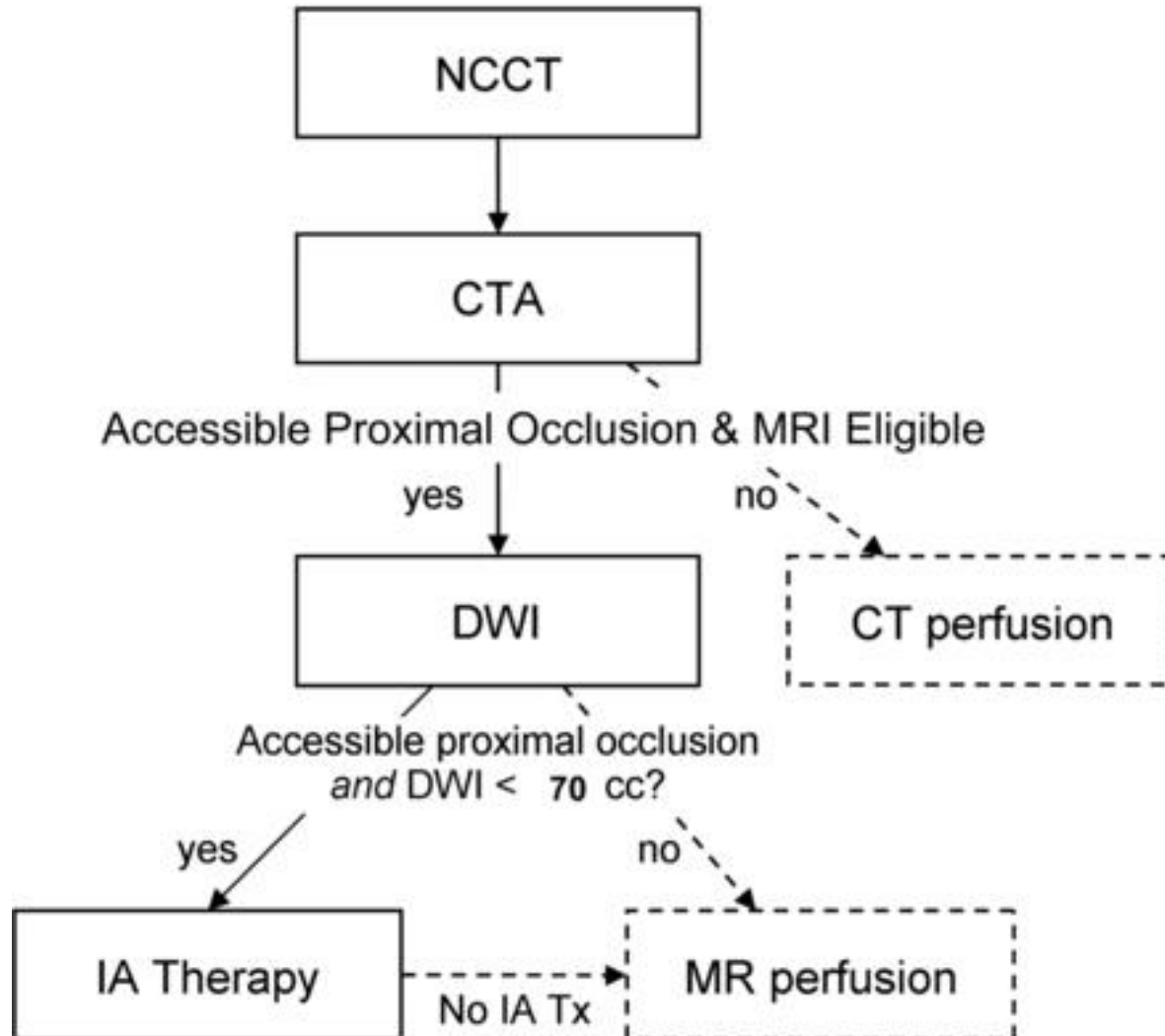


CTA Collateral Status and Response to Recanalization in Patients with Acute Ischemic Stroke V. Nambiar, S.I. Sohn, M.A. Almekhlafi, H.W. Chang, S. Mishra, E. Qazi, M. Eesa, A.M. Demchuk, M. Goyal, M.D. Hill and B.K. Menon. American Journal of Neuroradiology May 2014, 35 (5) 884-890; DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3174/ajnr.A3817>

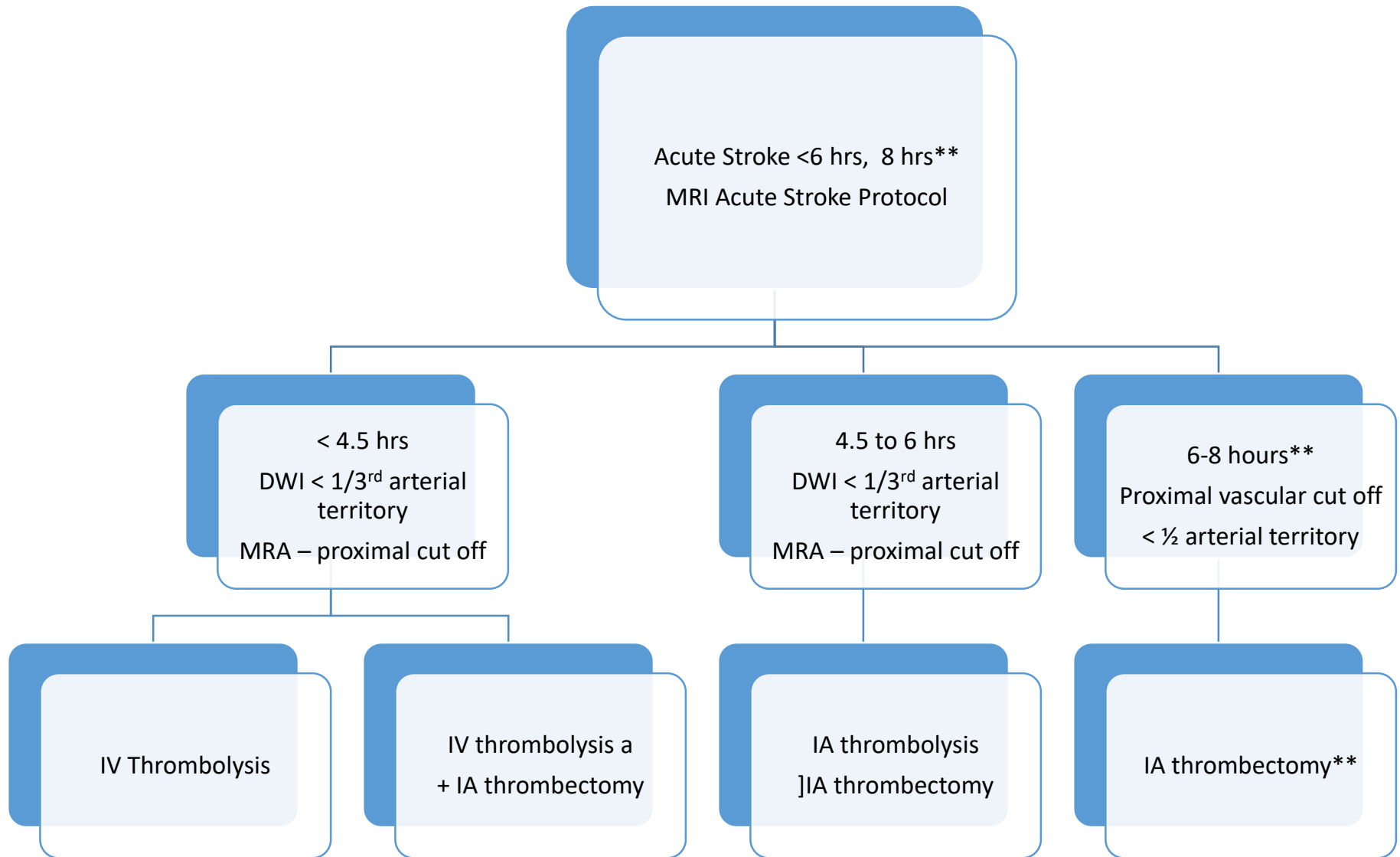
- Young lady
- Weakness of hand only
- Within 2 hrs
- ?? Real or functional
- MRI -



MGH Acute Stroke Imaging Algorithm



CMC Acute Stroke Algorithm



1 year data

- Number of patients imaged – 721
- Number of acute stroke – 432
- Number treated with IV thrombolysis – 66
- Number treated with IA thrombectomy – 22

¶ Number of Stroke codes activated .....80¶ ☐	
1.→Acute ischemic strokes☐	....31☐
2.→Transient ischemic attacks☐	.....7☐
3.→Acute Haemorrhagic strokes☐	.....9☐
4.→Stroke Mimics (imaging done)☐	.....8☐
5.→Not considered as strokes by stroke team (imaging not done)☐	.....3☐
☐	
¶ Admitted under Neurology¶ ☐	.....3☐
Admitted under Medicine / other units ¶ ☐	....14☐
In Hospital Strokes¶ ☐	.....3☐
DISCHARGE/DAMA · From Casualty ¶ ☐	....14☐
☐	☐
6.→IV Thrombolysis ·☐☐
7.→Mechanical <u>thrombectomy</u> (+/- IV)☐	.....3☐
¶	

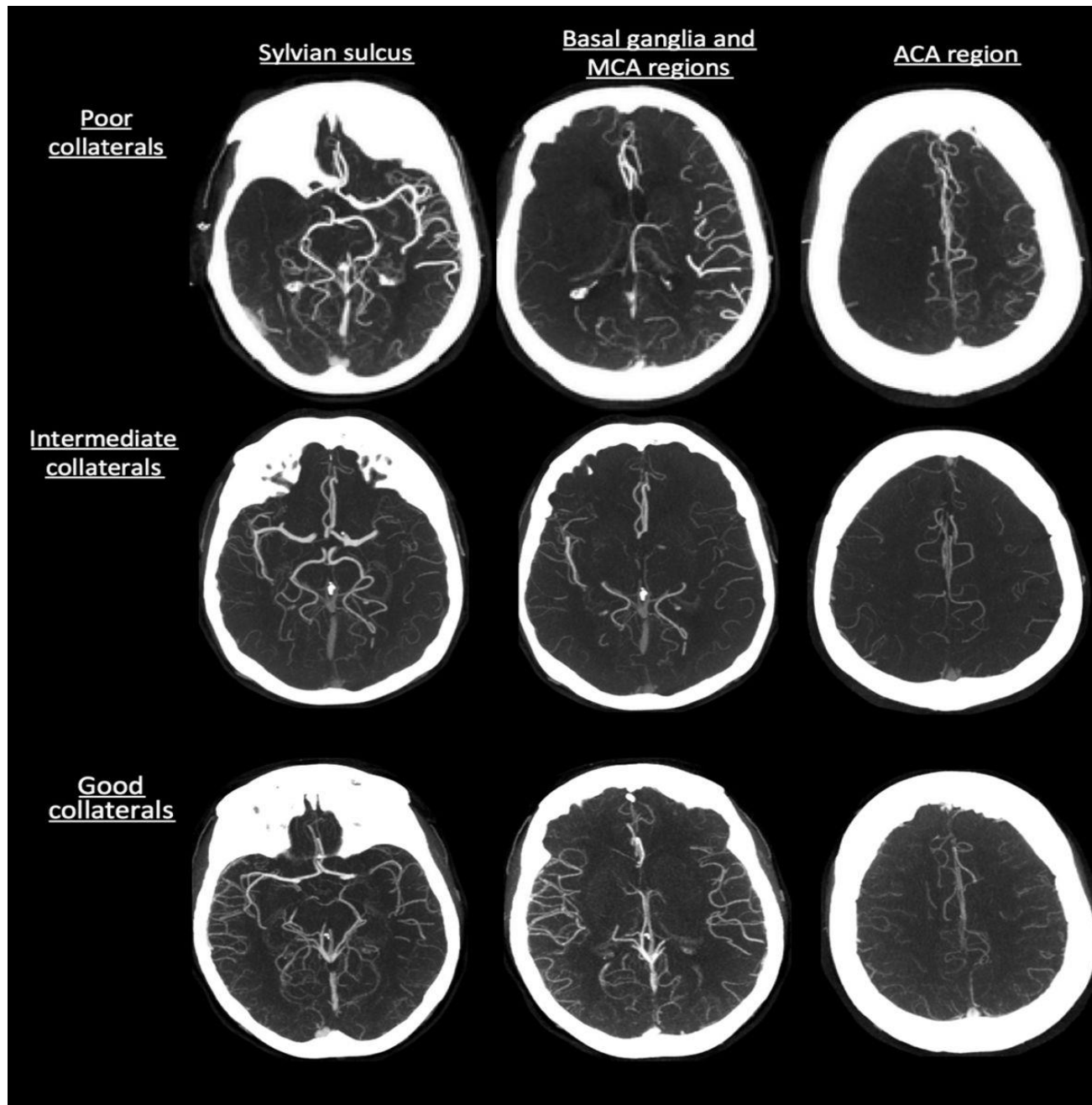
State of the Collaterals

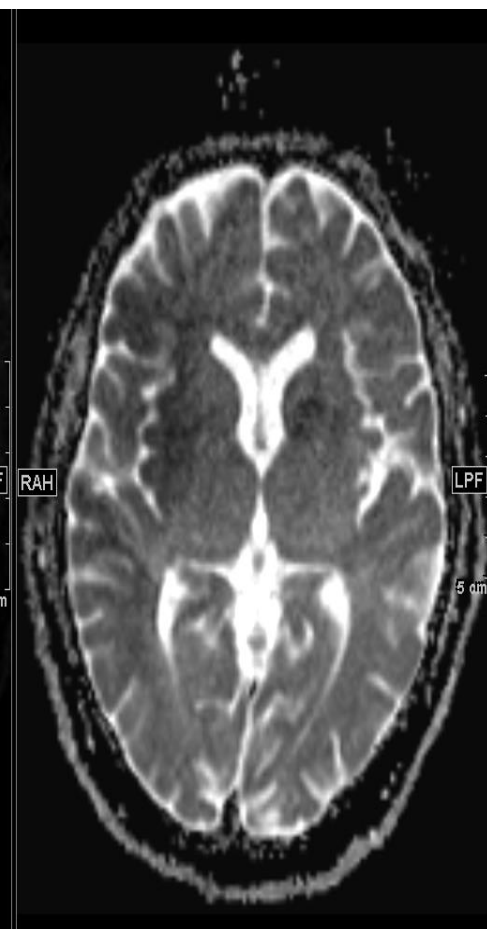
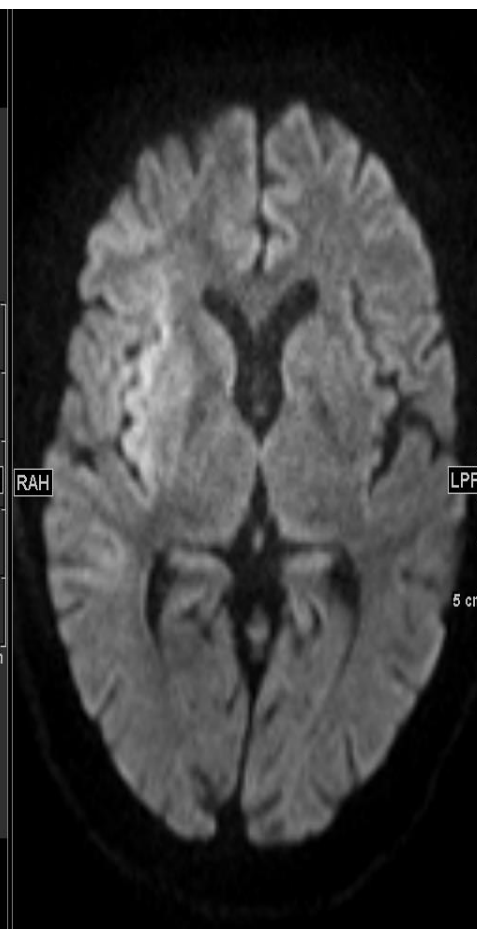
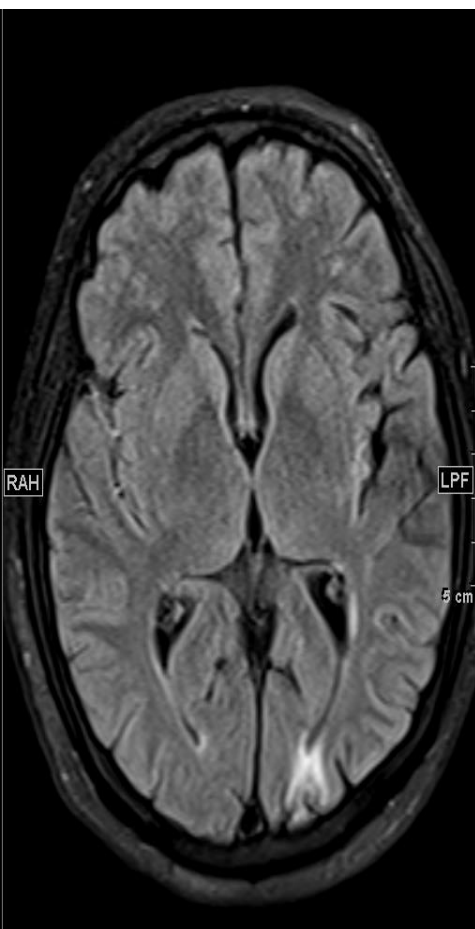
CT Angio

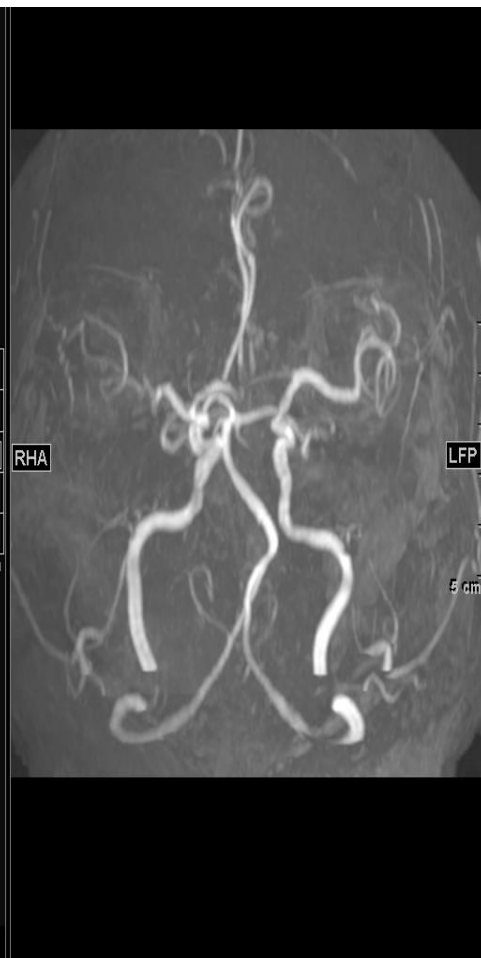
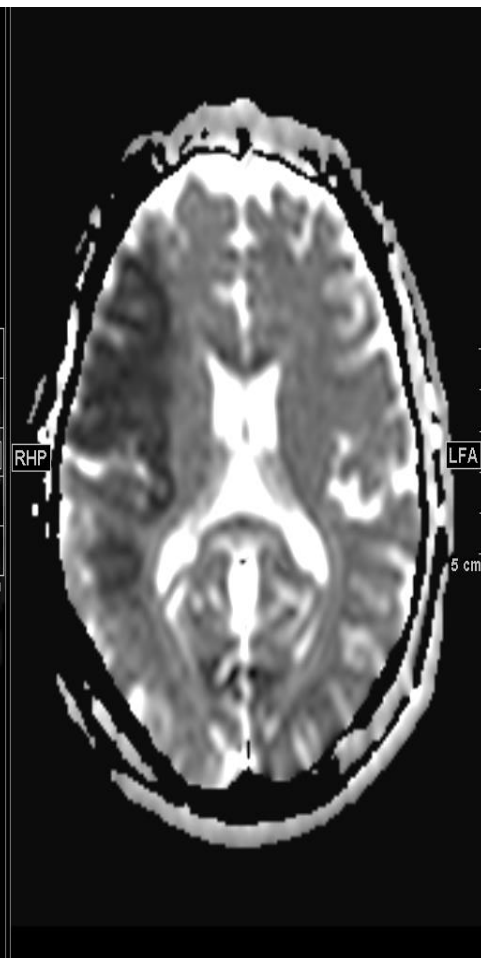
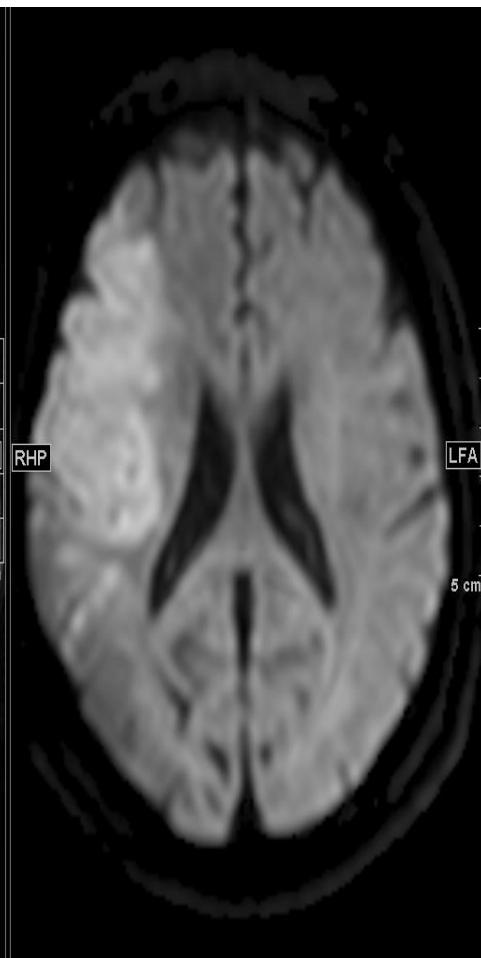
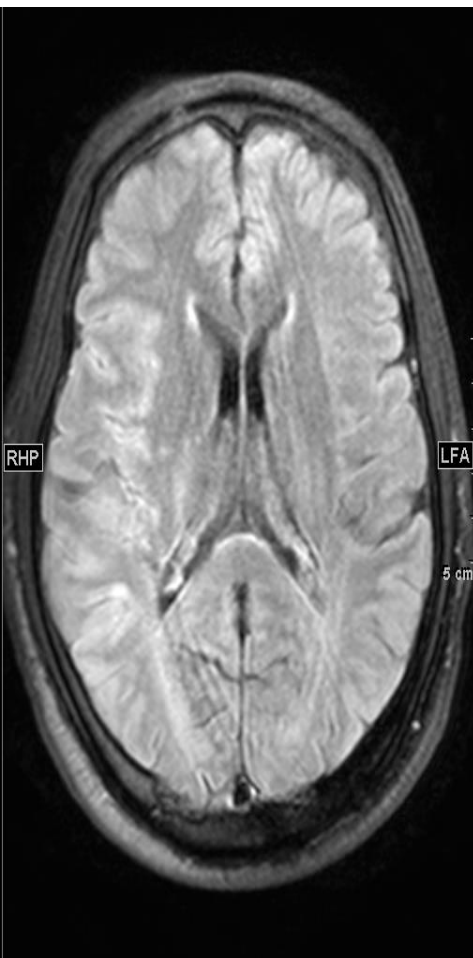
- Proximal vascular compromise
- Triple phase CT
- Contrast load

MRI FLAIR (2D with axial acquisition)

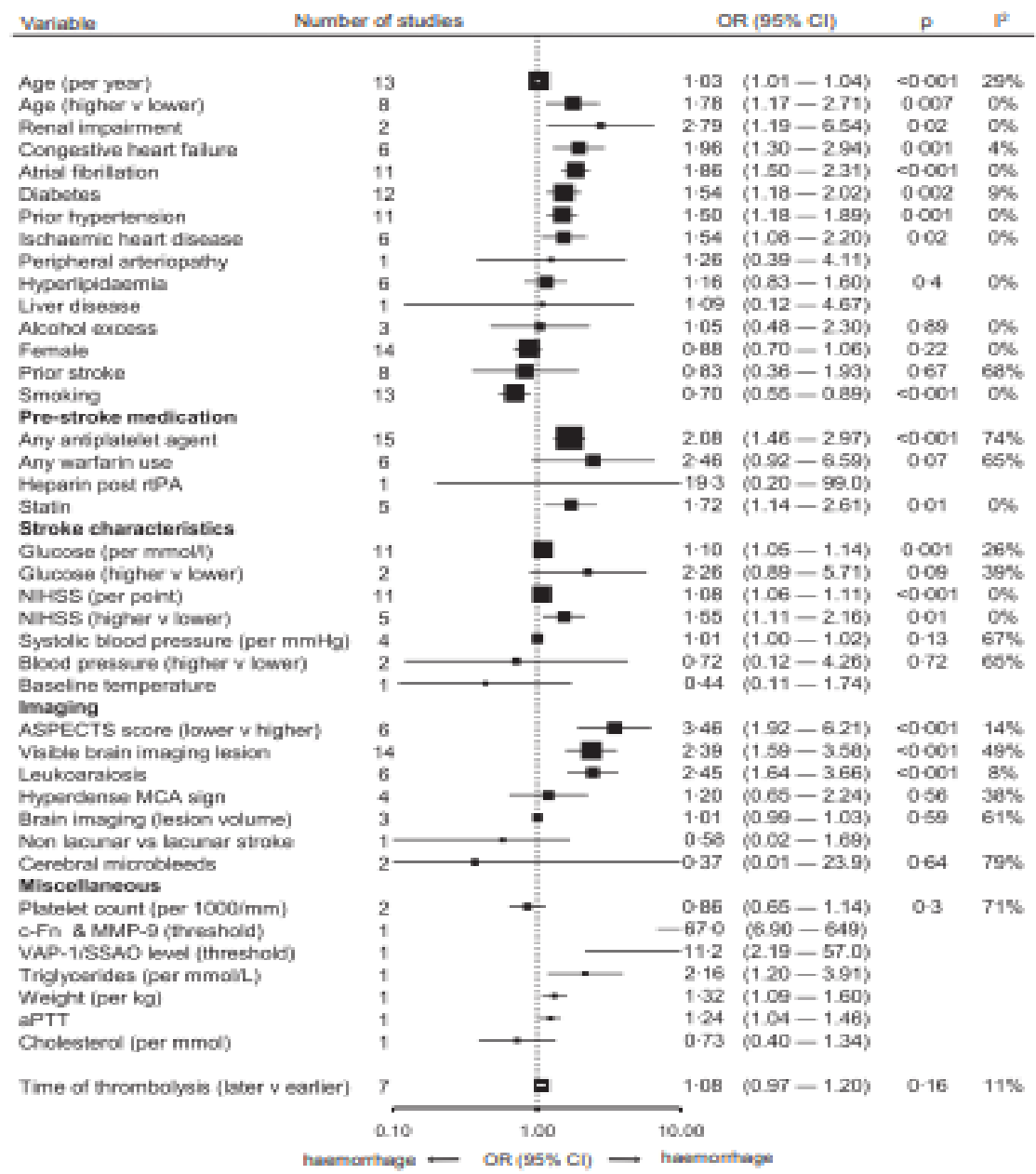
- No Contrast needed
- Slow flow picked up





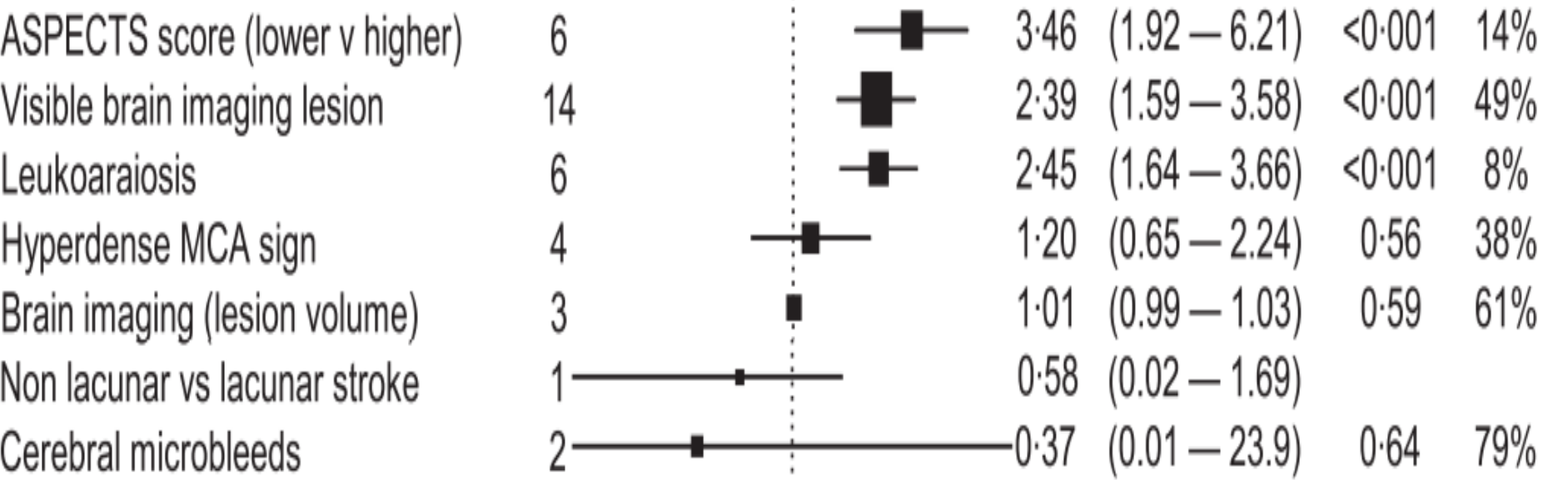


Risk of hemorrhage:

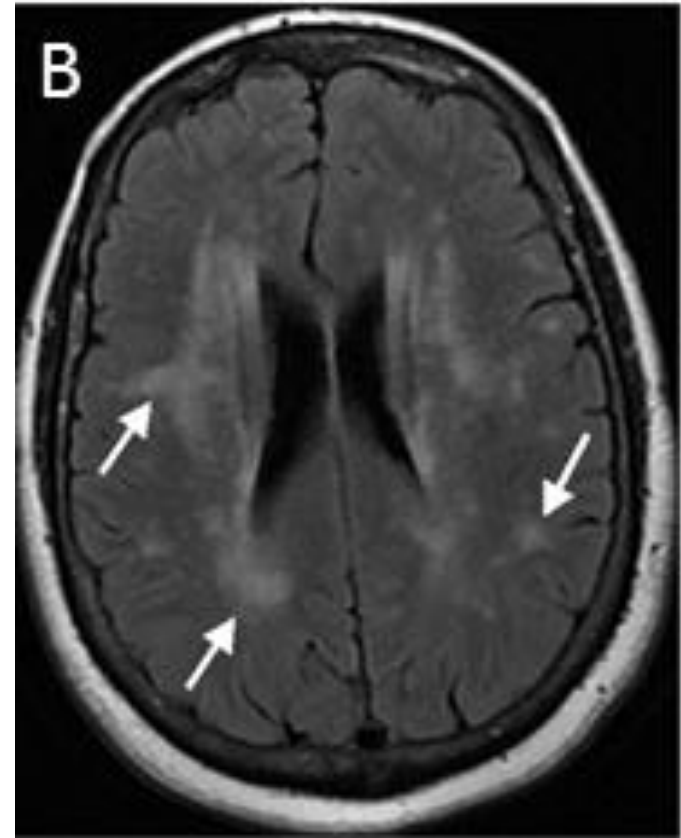


Whiteley et al Risk Factors for Intracranial Hemorrhage After rtPA

Imaging

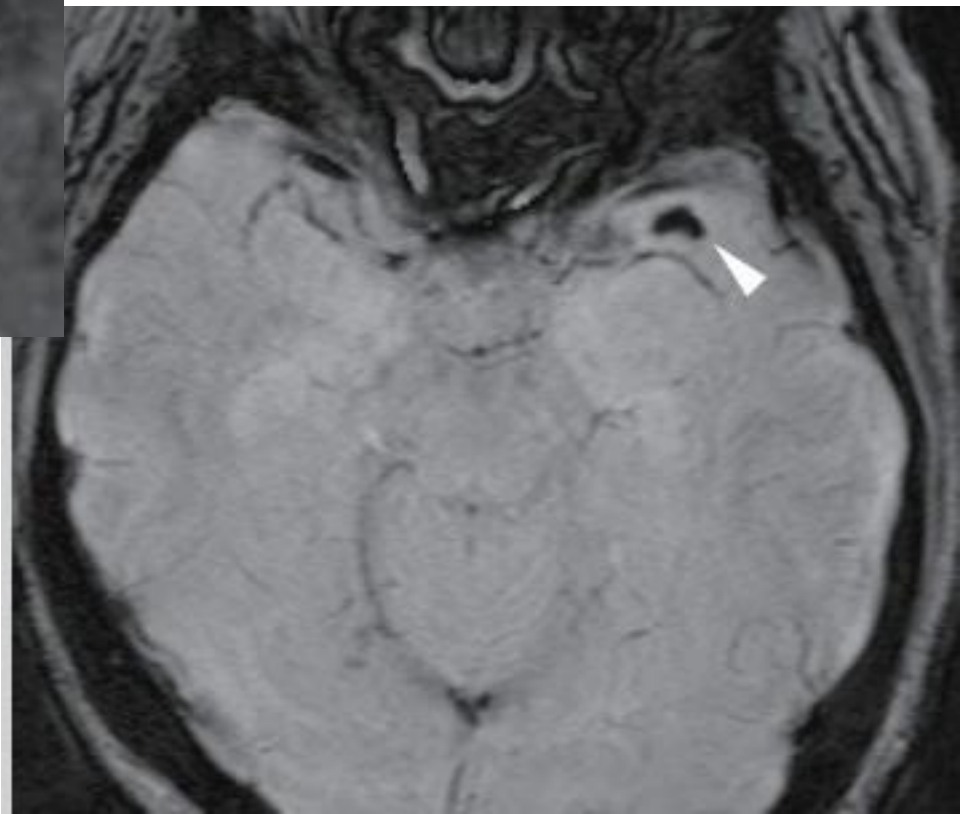


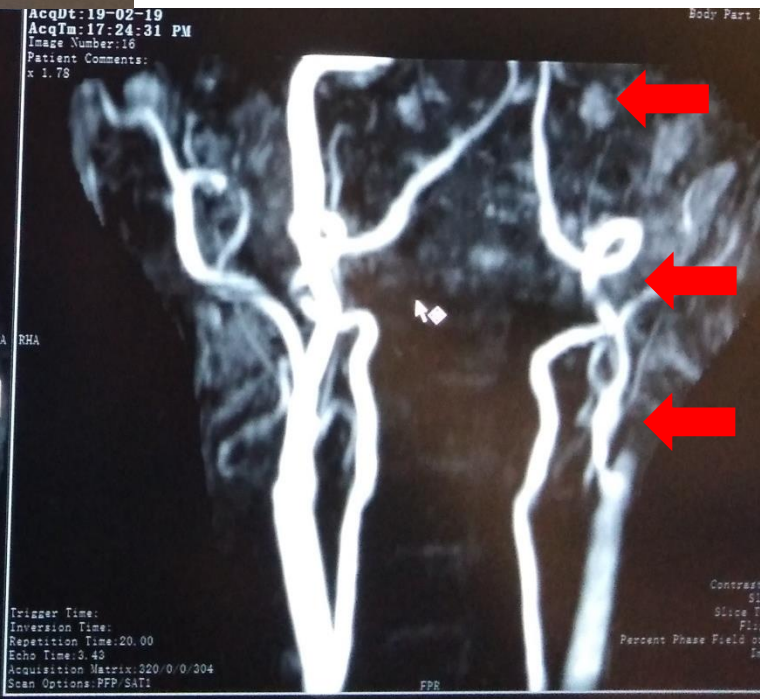
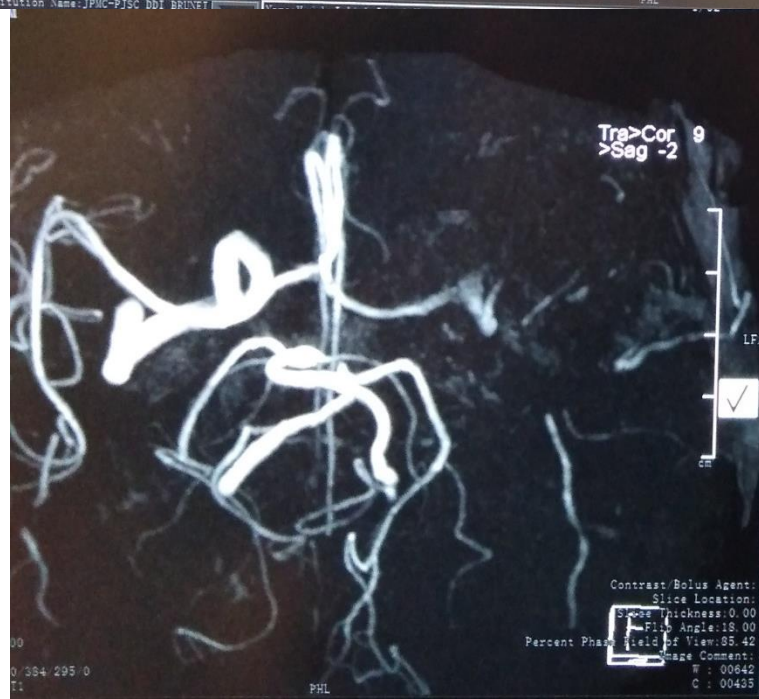
Leukoariosis



Presence and length of thrombus

- CT hyperdensity
- MR – SWI sequence picks up thrombus





Mimics



STROKE MIMICS

A TERTIARY CARE TEACHING HOSPITAL EXPERIENCE

ALEXANDER P. T., NANDISH A., SIVADASAN A., MATHEW V., AARON S., SUNITHI M. A., ALEXANDER M.

Department of Neurosciences & Radiodiagnosis, Christian Medical College, Vellore



MATERIAL & METHODS

Study

- Retrospective, observational

Location

- Christian Medical College, Vellore

Duration

- **1 year** [01/06/17 – 31/05/18]

Total subjects

- **721**

Inclusion

- ≥ 18 years
- acute stroke presentation ≤ 6 h
 - accident and emergency
 - ward
- **diffusion restriction** on MRI,
not limited to arterial territory
- **shine through** on ADC

Exclusion

- < 18 years
- **diffusion restriction** on MRI
limited to **arterial territory**

Presented by Dr. P. T. Alexander, DM Senior Registrar, Department of Neurosciences, CMC, Vellore as E-Poster at the 26th Annual Conference of the Indian Academy of Neurology, Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Auditorium, Science College, Raipur, September 27-30, 2018

Mimics



STROKE MIMICS

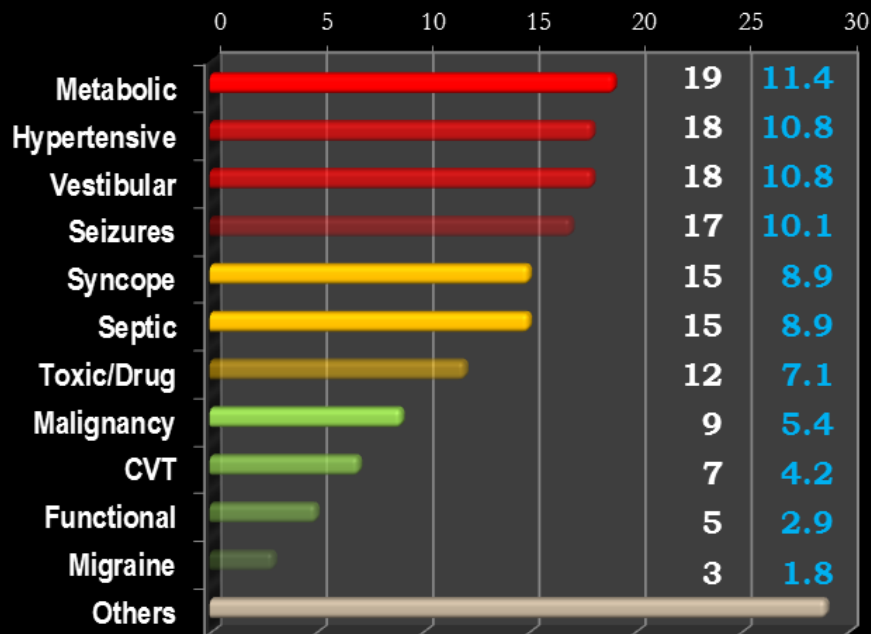
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RESULTS



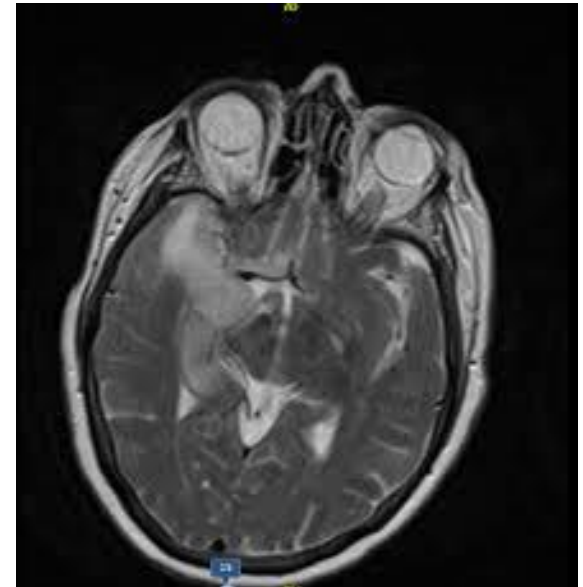
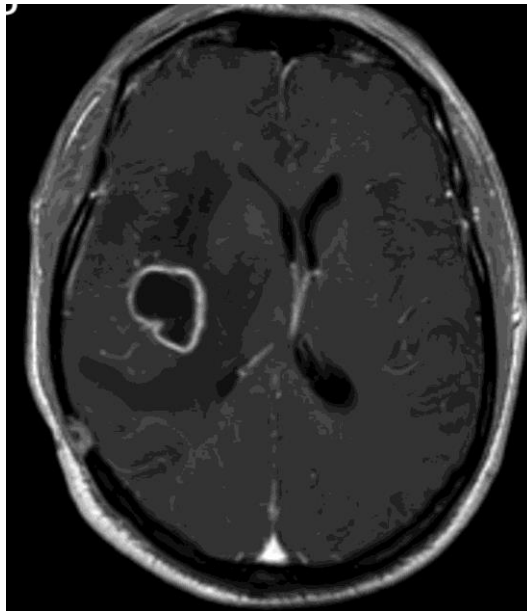
CONCLUSION

This study highlights

- the significance of the number and variety of mimics that can present with clinically similar presentation as an acute ischemic stroke.
- the importance of identifying them using a thorough clinical history and examination, and supported by radiological evidence and laboratory parameters
- as their management will follow an entirely different algorithm, not involving thrombolysis or thrombectomy – which is the essence of using MRI acute stroke protocol as a screening tool for acute ischemic strokes.

Is every stroke a 'stroke'

- Mimics: normally ~ 10 %
- Adding MRI to protocol – Less specific on clinical history and more pick up of mimics



Venous thrombosis and venous infarct



Protocol

05-Jul-1972 TA: 2:23 PM: REF PAT: 2 Voxel size: 1.1x0.9x3.0 mm Rel. SNR: 1.00 : swi_r

Scan Apply Cancel

1	t2_haste_localizer_p2	00:20
2	DIFFUSION	02:37
3	T2W_FLAIR_TRA	02:26
4	TOF_MRA	02:58
5	SWI	

Σ 08:21

Stop Continue Skip

Program Routine Contrast Resolution Geometry System Physio Inline Sequenc

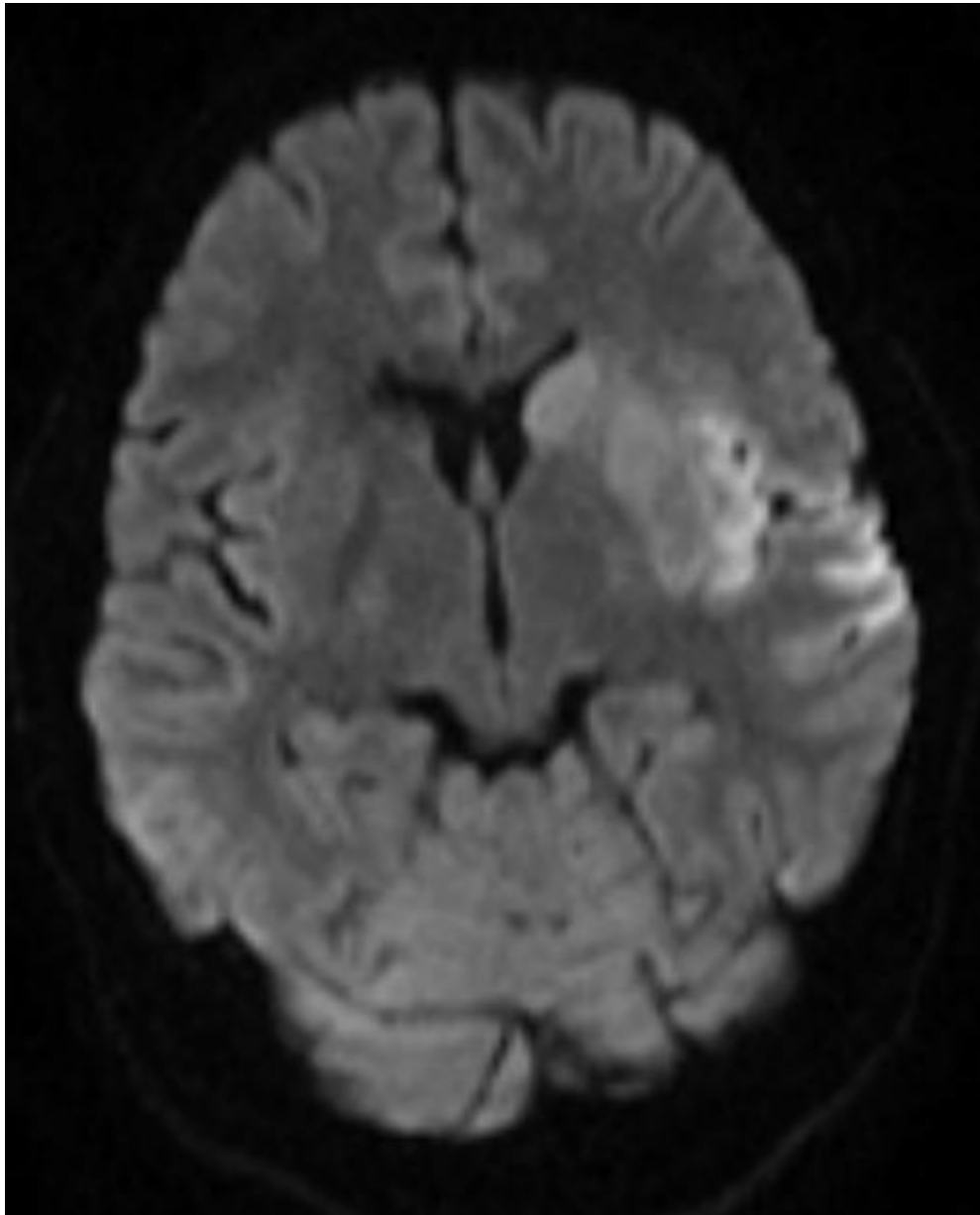
Waiting for user to continue. SAR=NM

22-Feb

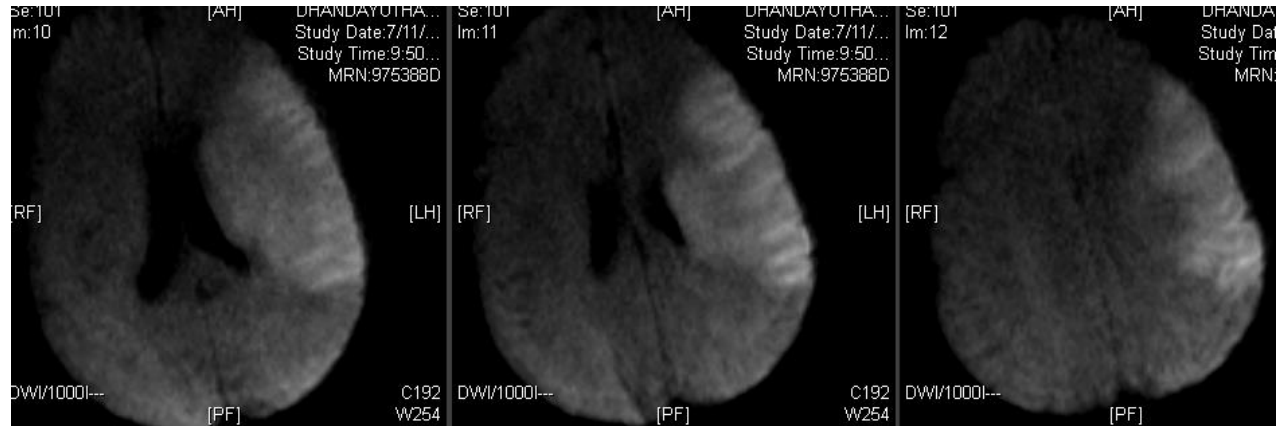
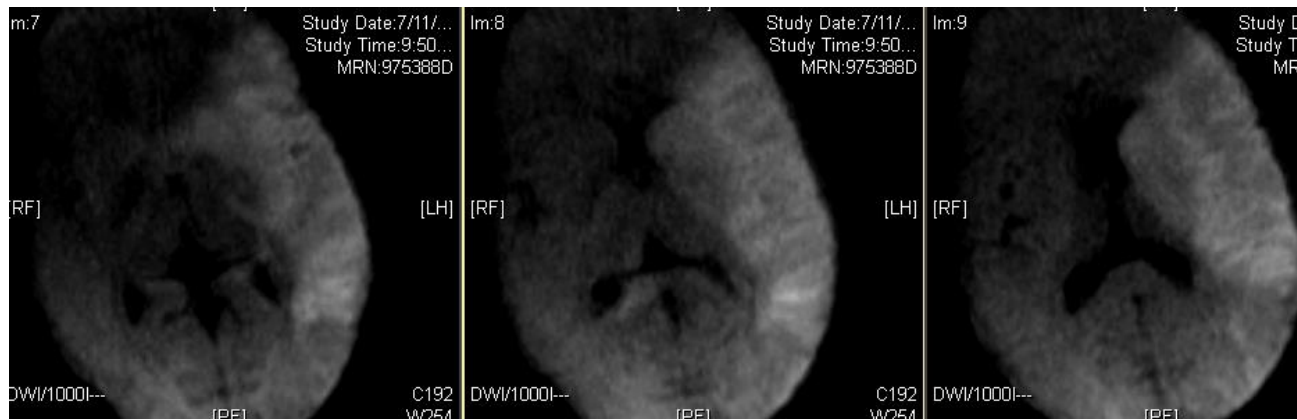
Slab group 1 Slabs 1 Dist. factor 20 % Position LD 0 A11.1 H13 Orientation T>C-8.6 Phase-enc. dir R>>L

Phase oversampling 0 % Slice oversampling 0.0 % Slices per slab 48

FoV read 230 mm FoV phase 87.5 % Slice thickness 3.00 mm TR 49 ms TE 40.0 ms Averages 1 Concatenations 1 Filter Prescan Normalize Coil elements HE2,4,NE2



FLAIR few hyperintense vessels
< 4.5 hrs, IV TPA. No progression.
Gradual improvement.



< 4.5 hrs, No thrombolysis

Recommendation

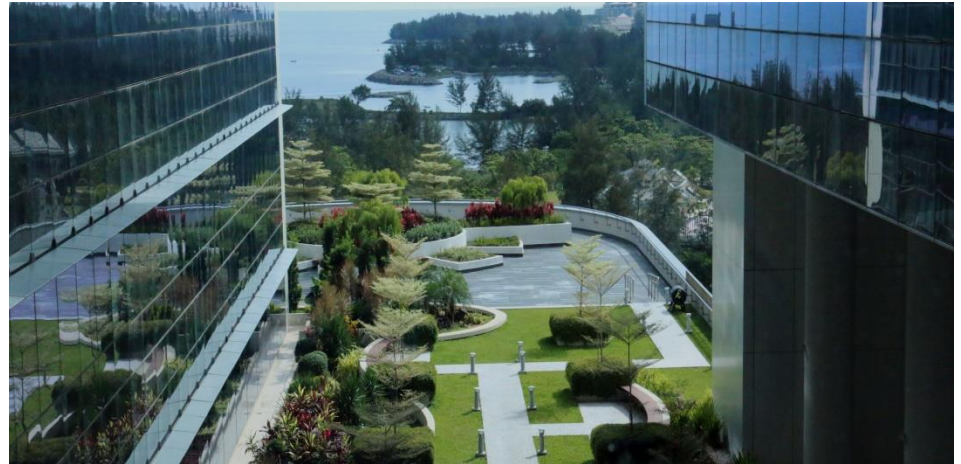
- 'The expansion of the acute stroke protocol to include MRI altered the therapy plan in 26% of patients.'
- The utility of MRI is in improving patient stratification into best-treatment options

Heindenreich et al. Acta Radiol. 2008 Jun;49(5):550-7

Time taken□	¶ Average□	¶ Range□
Door to stroke code Activation¶ □	8min□	2–8min□
Door to imaging completion MRI¶ □	46min□	20min–1hr 12min□
Door to imaging completion CT¶ □	45min□	20–57min□

Conclusions

- MRI is a robust technique for determining the features concerning the Clinician at the time of decision making.
- The overwhelming evidence for infarct core and thrombus makes MRI the more favorable imaging before starting intervention.
- - Time is the only factor which is more than CT.
- Short imaging time is possible with MRI and where possible and available, MRI can be used for the primary imaging in Acute Stroke.
- Stroke mimics can be immediately identified and treatment started based on limited imaging where appropriate.



Thank you

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