



# CT imaging training

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# DISCLOSURE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL INTEREST

Within the past 12 months, I have had a financial interest with the organizations listed below.

## **AFFILIATION/FINANCIAL RELATIONSHIP**

- Consulting Fees/Honoraria

## **COMPANY**

- Gore
- Terumo

# CT

We need brain imaging in all supra-aortic interventions

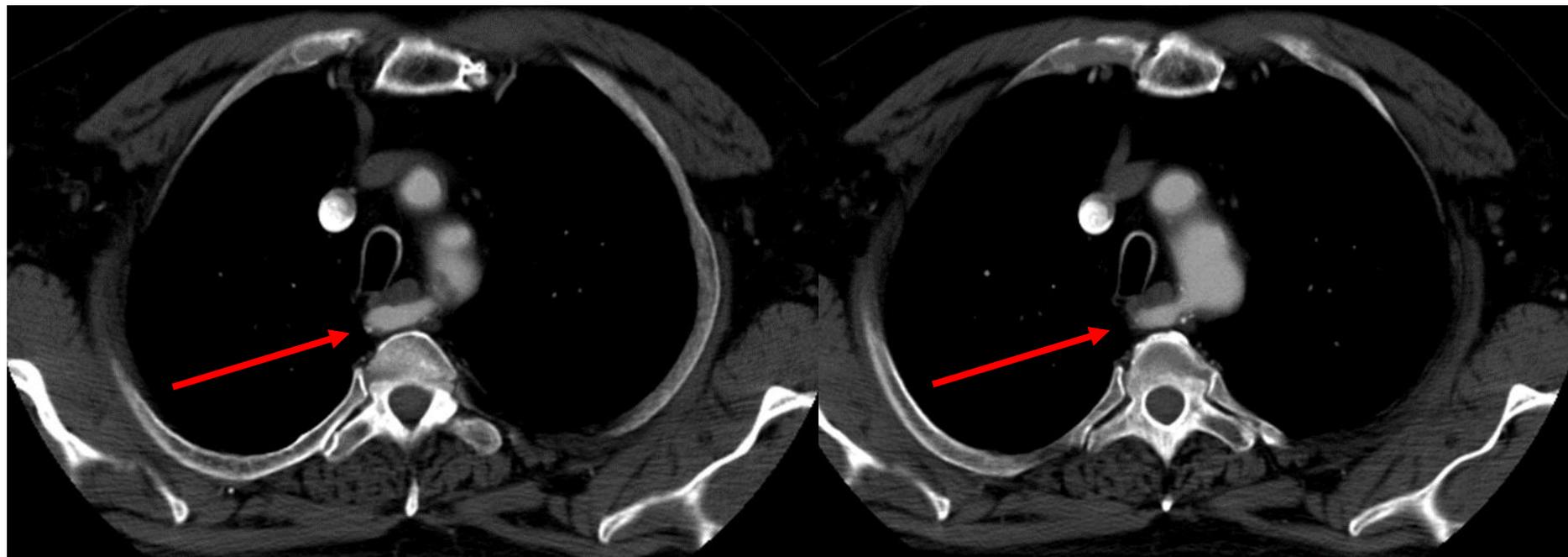
Imaging includes native CT, CT angiography (CTA) and CT perfusion (CTP)

# CT Questions

- Brain pathology
  - Acute infarction
  - Cerebral hemorrhage
  - Cerebral atrophy
  - Old infarctions ...
  
- Condition of arteries (CTA)
  - Vascular anatomy - variations
  - Type of aortic arch
  - Plaque analysis - calcification

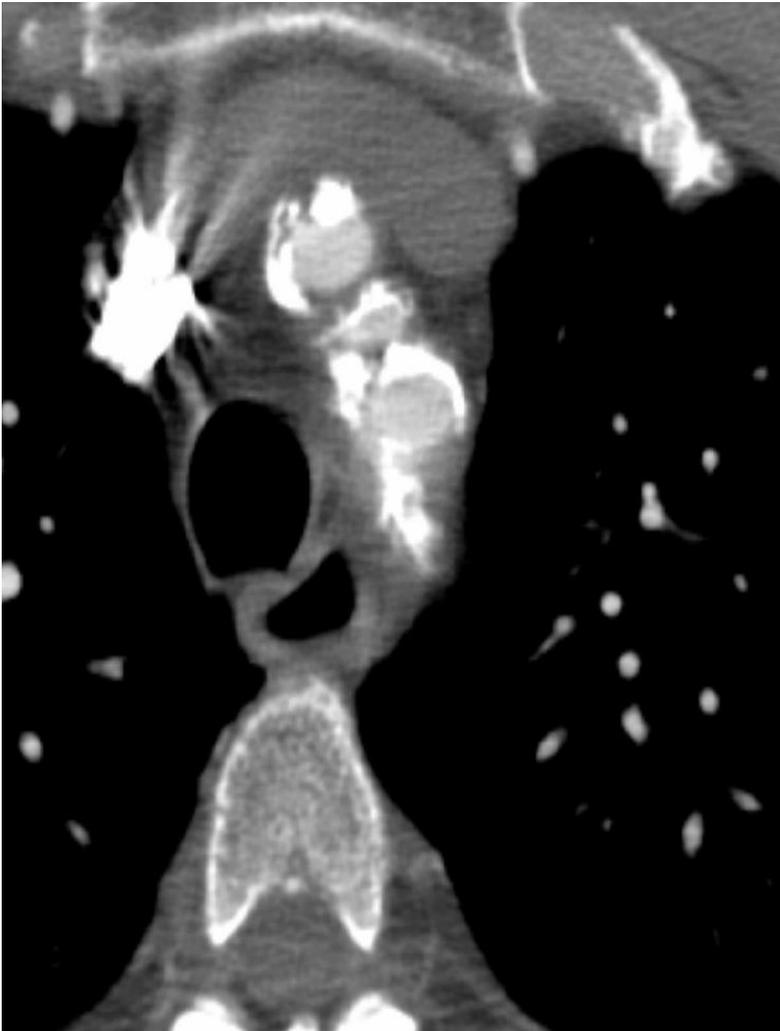


# CT-Angiography



A. lusoria

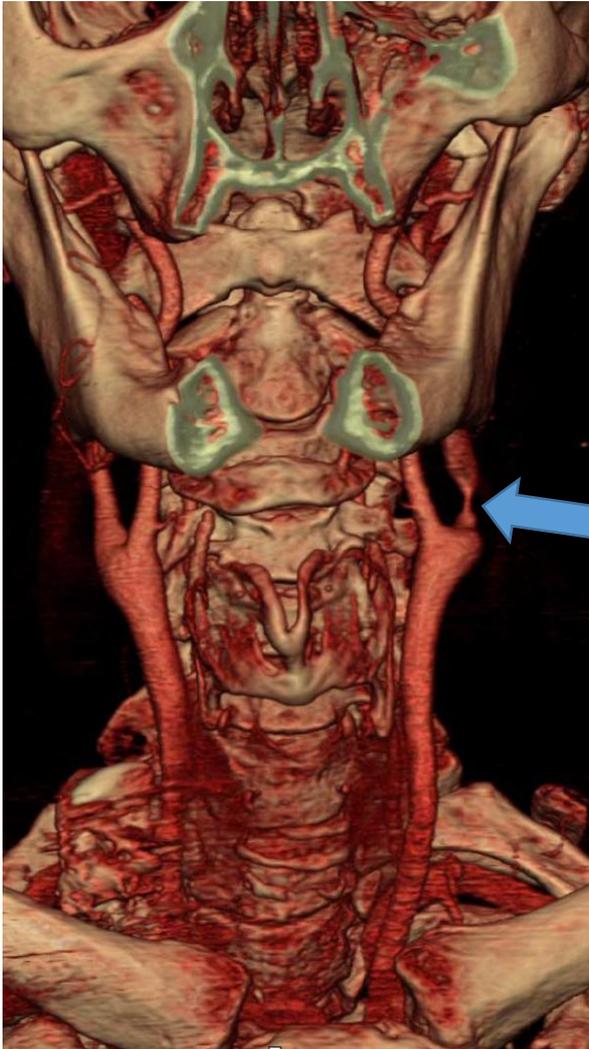
# CT-Angiography



Calcification of aortic arch and supra-aortic arteries



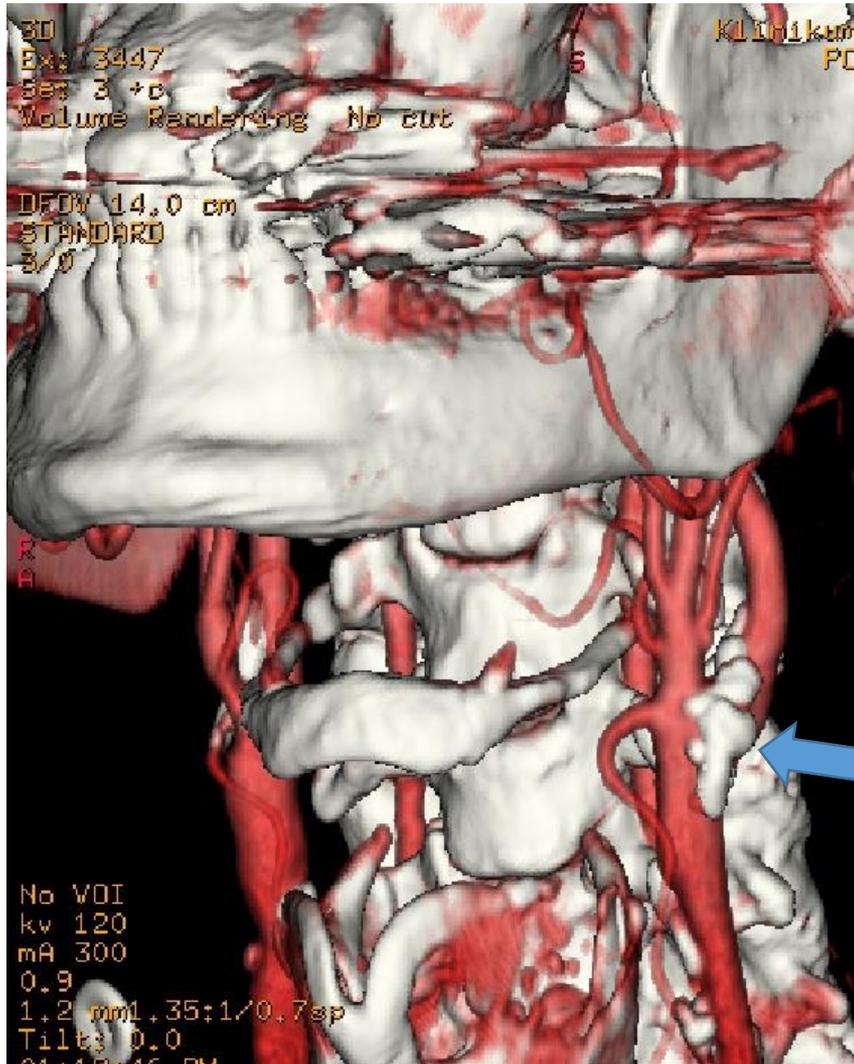
# CT-Angiography



Degree of stenosis



# CT-Angiography



Calcified  
bifurcational plaque

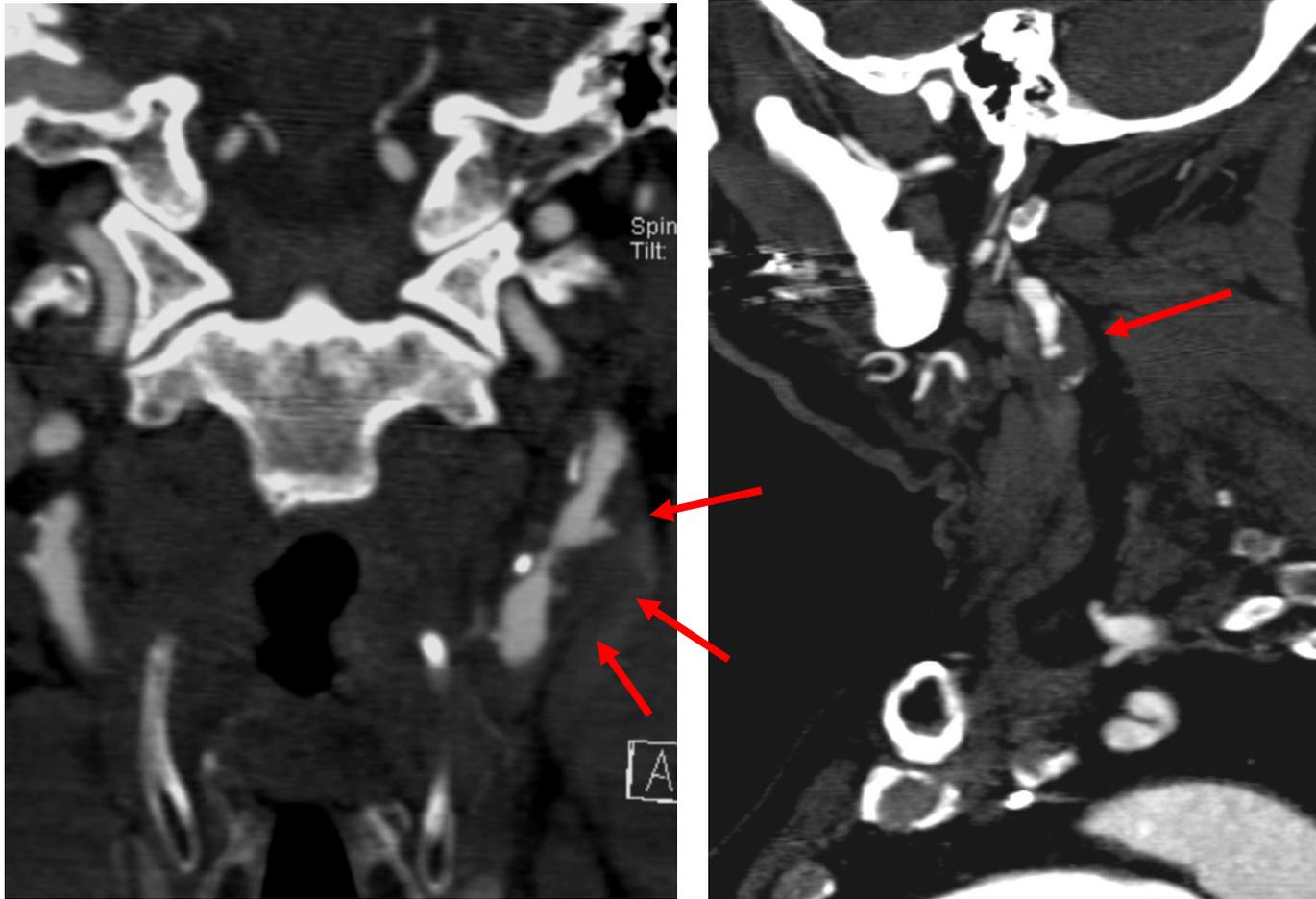


# CT-Angiography



Elongation of CCA and ICA

# CT-Angiography



Soft plaques with only insignificant calcification

# CT-Angiography



Severe ICA stenosis without calcification

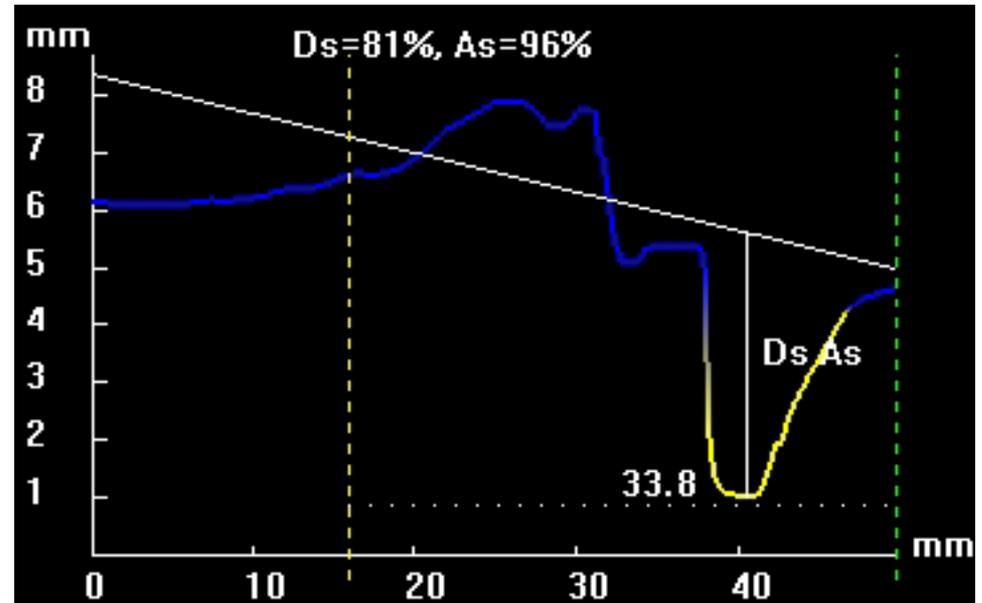
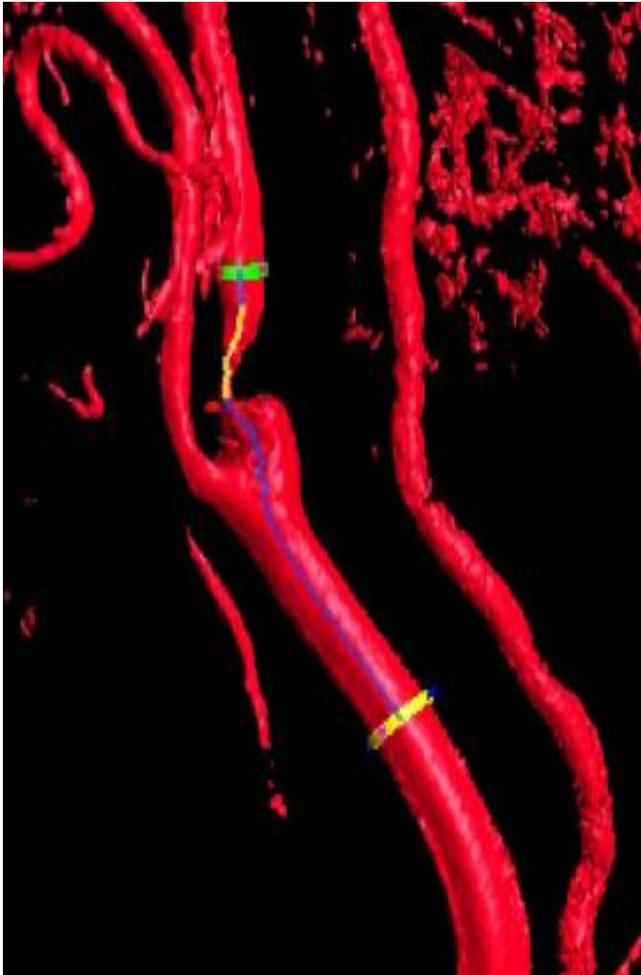


# CT-Angiography



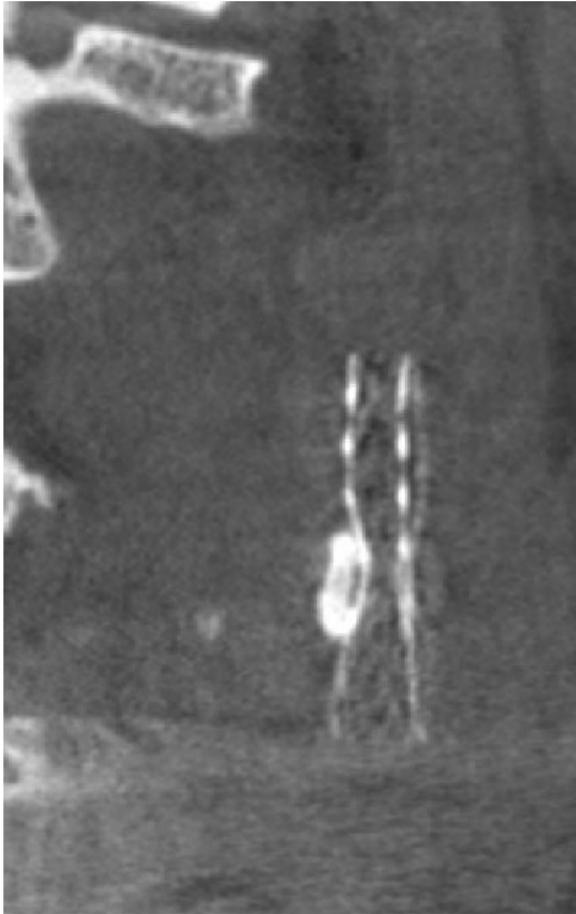
Calcified ICA stenosis, but not circular

# CT-Angiography



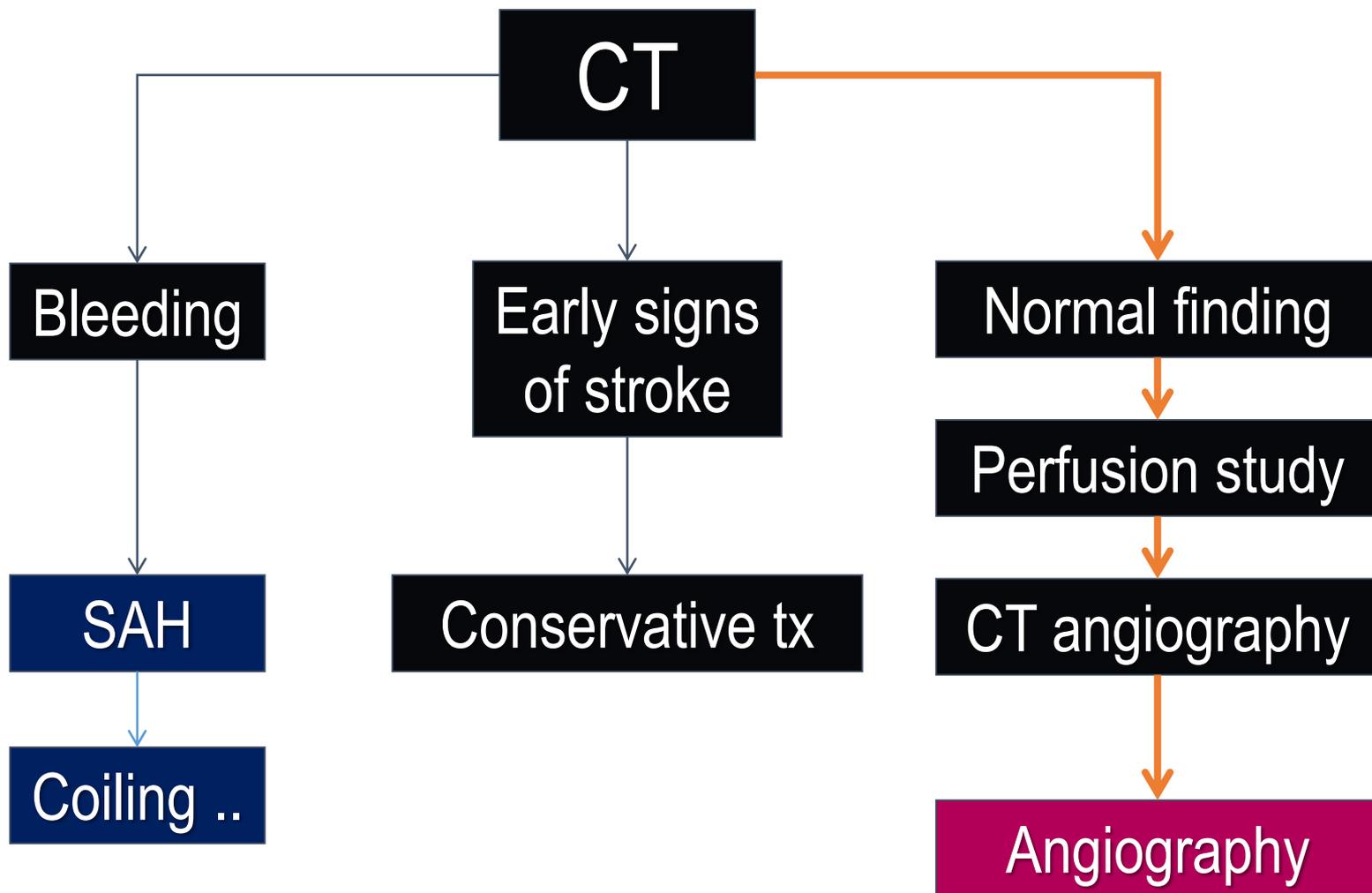
Determination of the degree of stenosis

# CT-Angiography



Calcifications are the enemy of good CAS results

# Diagnostic Stroke Workup



# Native CT

- Focal parenchymal hypodensity
- Cortical swelling with sulcal effacement and loss of gray-white matter differentiation
- Hyperdense MCA sign

# CT-Angiography

## Time is Brain



### Carotid and cerebral artery occlusions:

- 1.9 million brain cells die every minute
- fast recanalization must be achieved
- where is the cerebral artery occlusion located?
- CTA gives the answer!

# Purpose of ASPECT

## Candidate for Thrombectomy ?

- Diagnosis of ischemic stroke
- Location of obstruction
- Stage of ischemic damage

*Can predict both functional outcome and risk of ICH.*

# ASPECTS

Barber PA, Demchuk AM, Zhang J, Buchan AM.:  
Validity and reliability of a quantitative computed  
tomography score in predicting outcome of  
hyperacute stroke before thrombolytic therapy.

ASPECTS Study Group. Alberta Stroke  
Programme Early CT Score.

Lancet 2000; 355: 1670-4

# What is ASPECTS?

- ASPECTS is a 10-point quantitative topographic CT scan score.
- ASPECTS was developed to offer the reliability and utility of a standard CT with a reproducible grading system to assess early ischemic changes on pre-treatment CT studies in patients with acute ischemic stroke of the anterior circulation.



# Why do we need ASPECTS?

- Extent of early ischemic changes is an important predictor.
- Revascularization increases the chance of good functional outcome.
- ASPECTS was developed to standardize the detection and reporting of the extent of ischemic hypodensity.

# Why do we need ASPECTS?

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- ASPECTS forces standardized, meticulous examination while decision for treatment is being made in emergency situation.
- ASPECTS is useful to select patients for thrombectomy.

# ASPECTS

ASPECTS is determined from evaluation of two standardized regions of the MCA territory

- basal ganglia level with thalamus, and nucleus caudatus
- supraganglionic level with the corona radiata, and centrum semiovale

# ASPECTS

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All cuts with basal ganglionic or supraganglionic structures visible are required to determine if an area is involved. The abnormality should be visible on at least two consecutive cuts to ensure that it is truly abnormal rather than a volume averaging effect.

# ASPECTS

To compute the ASPECTS, 1 point is subtracted from 10 for any evidence of early ischemic change for each of the defined regions.

A normal CT scan receives ASPECTS of 10 points.

A score of 0 indicates diffuse involvement throughout the MCA territory.

# ASPECTS Definitions

C-Caudate

I-Insular ribbon

IC-Internal Capsule

L-Lentiform nucleus

M1-Anterior MCA cortex

M2-MCA cortex lateral to the insula

M3-Posterior MCA cortex

M4, M5, M6 are the anterior, lateral and posterior

MCA territories immediately superior to M1, M2 and

M3, rostral to basal ganglia.

# ASPECTS Definitions

- Subcortical structures are allotted 3 points: C, L, and IC
- MCA cortex is allotted 7 points: insular cortex, M1, M2, M3, M4, M5 and M6

# ASPECTS Prognosis

- Reliable and reproducible with low inter- and intraobserver variability.
- Within the first 3 h of MCA stroke onset, baseline ASPECTS values correlates inversely with the severity of NIHSS and with functional outcome.
- Scores of 7 or less, indicating more extensive cerebral hypoattenuation in the MCA territory, are correlated with poor functional outcome and risk of intracerebral haemorrhage.

# ASPECTS Limitations

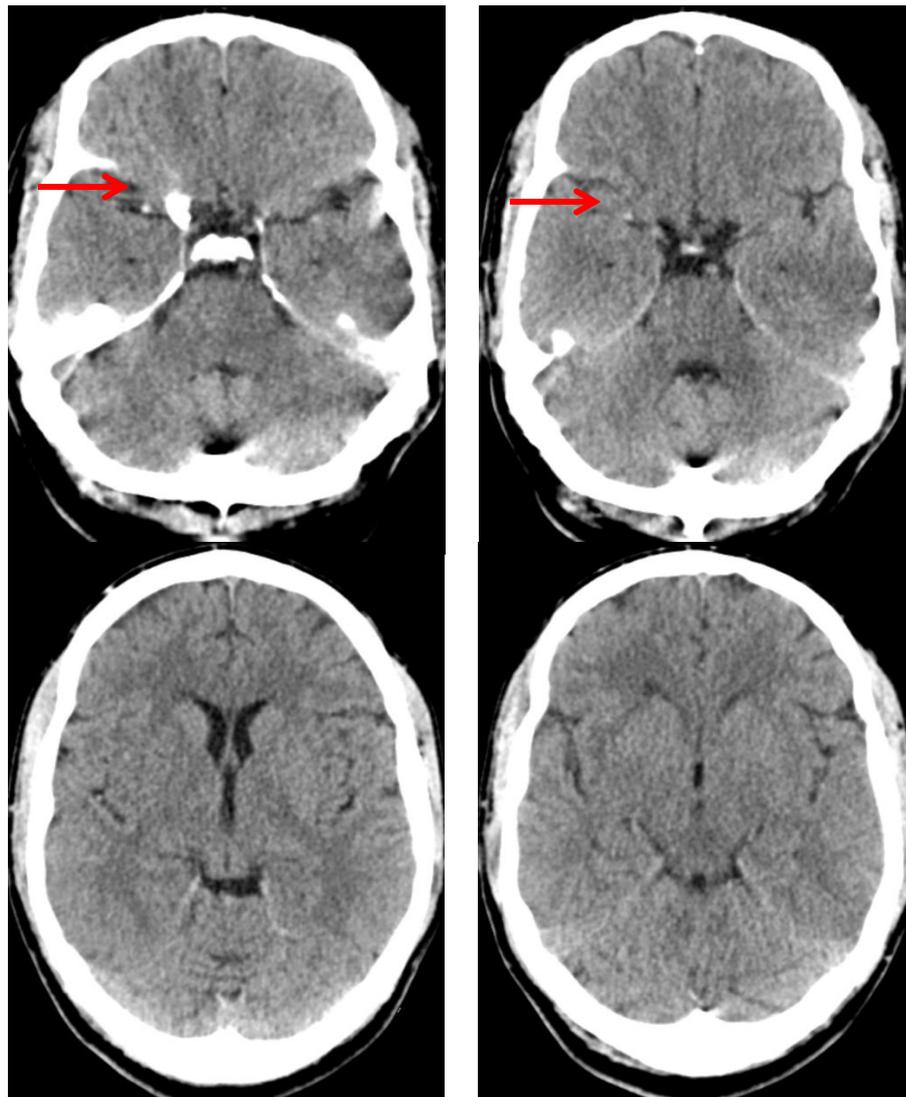
- Scoring limited to MCA territory.
- Scoring is difficult in M2 region in presence of streak artefacts in the base of skull.
- Watershed infarcts are difficult to score according to ASPECTS on NCCT scans.
- Presence of subcortical and age-related periventricular white matter changes can lead to incorrect ASPECTS scoring.
- Poor scan quality like motion artefacts or tilt can lead to incorrect ASPECTS scoring.



# CT

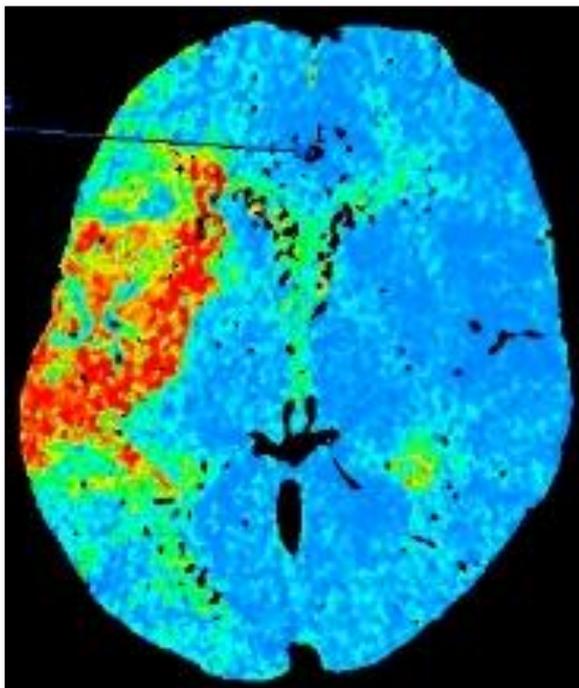
Normal?

D.E. f-62  
Hemiplegic for 5 hrs

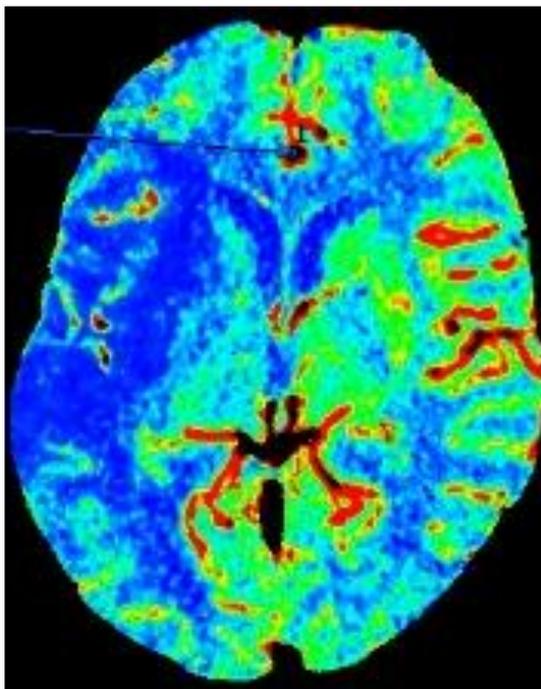




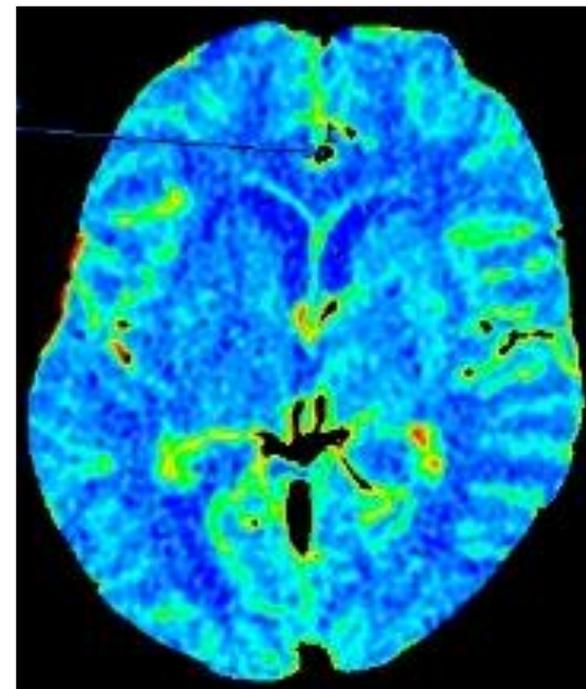
# CT Perfusion



Transit time



Flow



Blood volume

D.E. f-62 Hemiplegic for 5 hrs CT: perfusion deficit

# CT Angiography



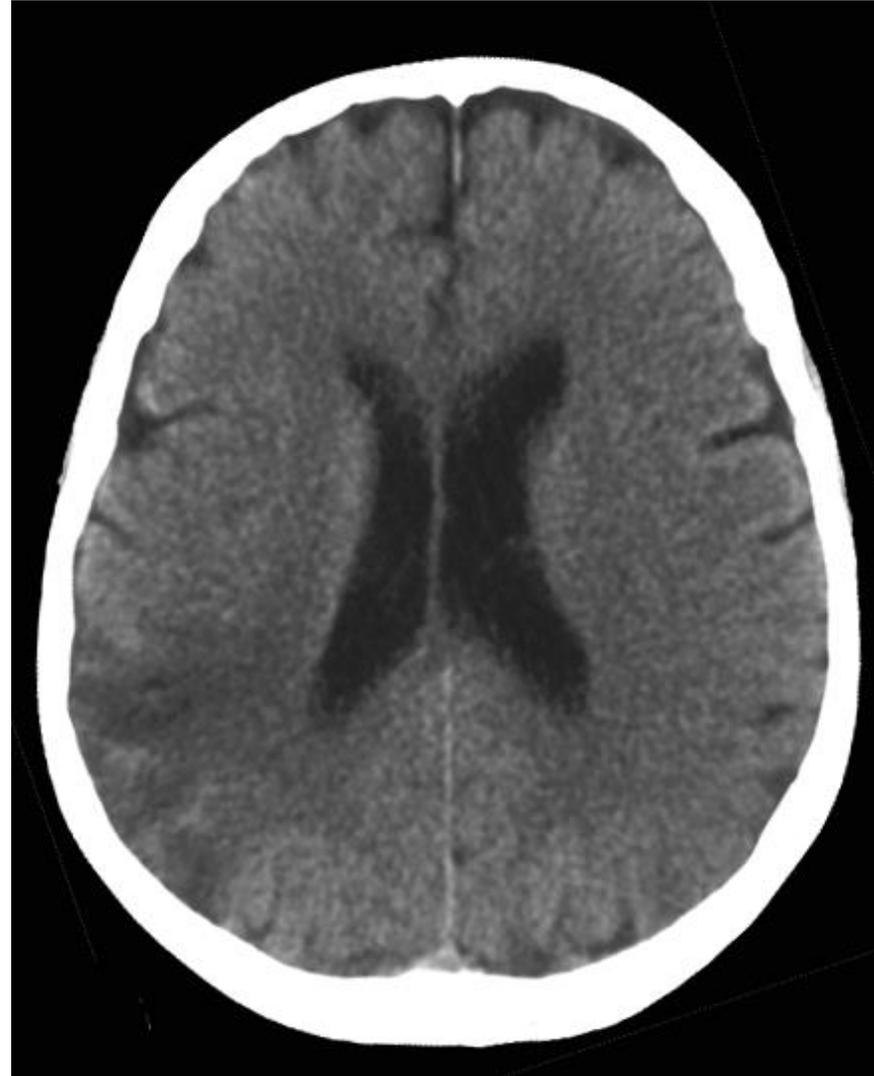
D.E. f-62 Hemiplegic for 5 hours  
CTA right ICA & MCA occluded



# CT

Normal?

Ischemic Infarction

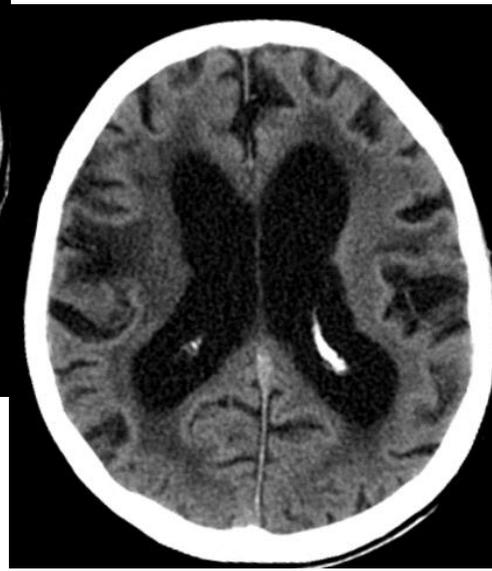
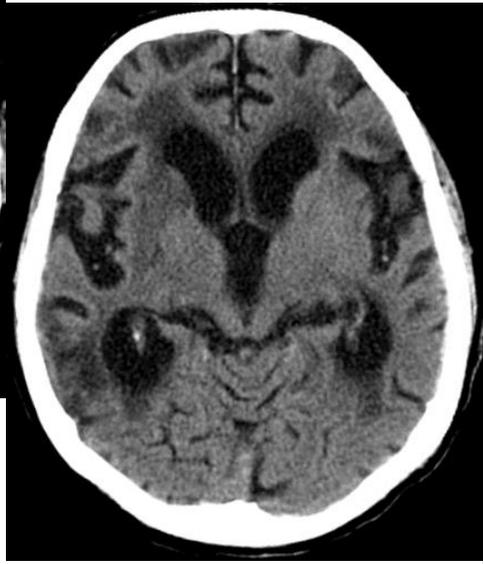




# Brain atrophy Old infarction



m-88y



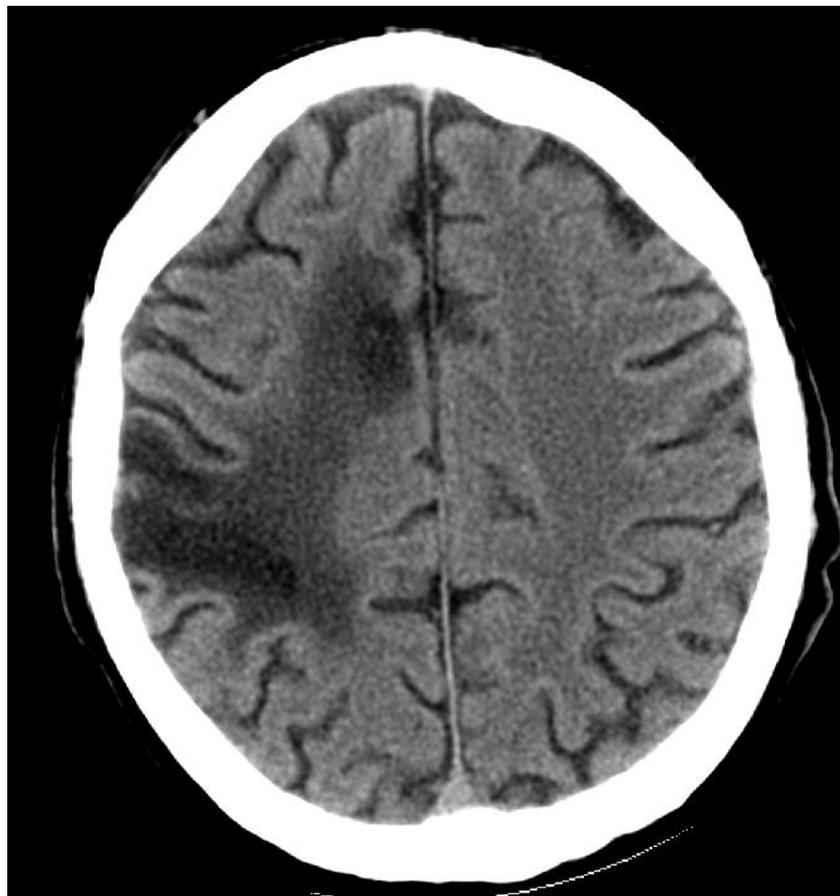
# CT



Several infarctions – Brain atrophy



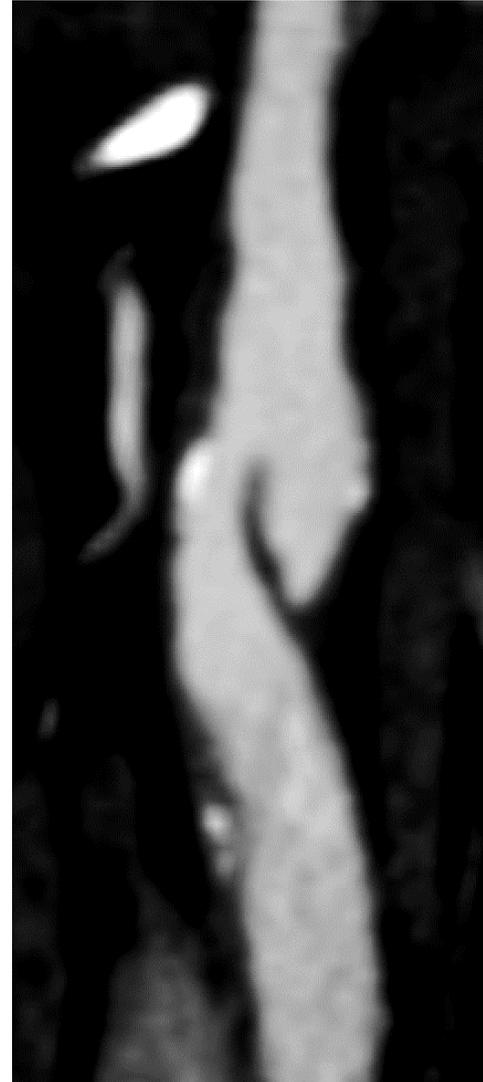
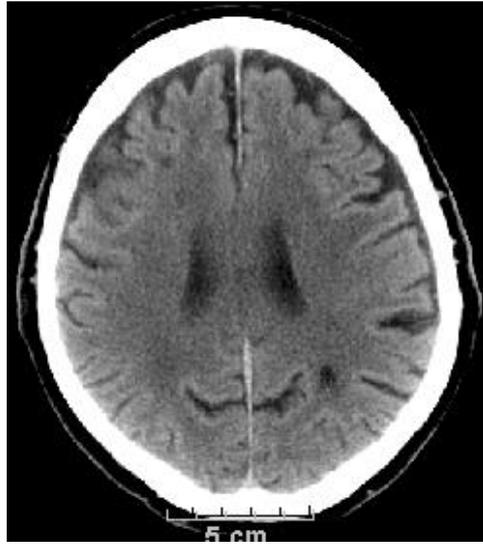
# CT



Scar after Infarction



# CT + CT-Angiography



# Acute Stroke

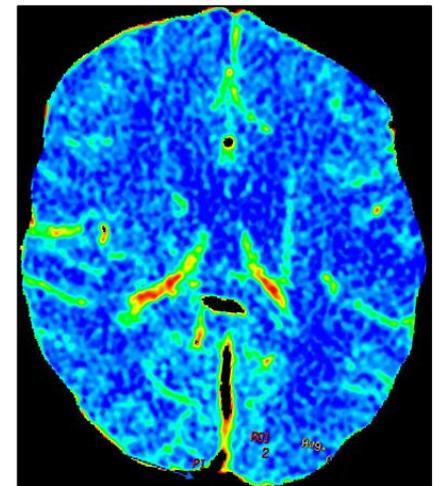
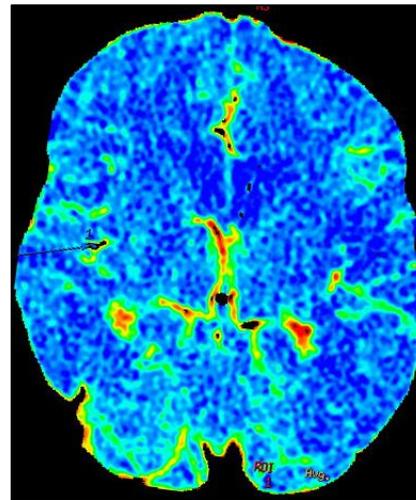
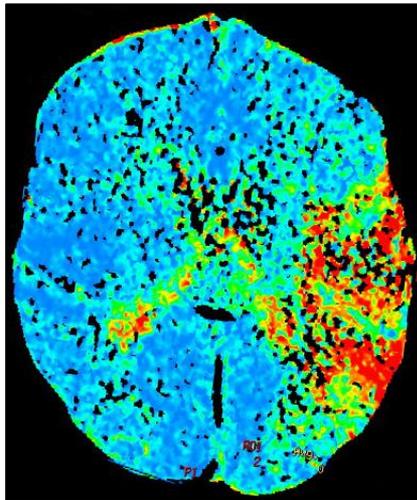
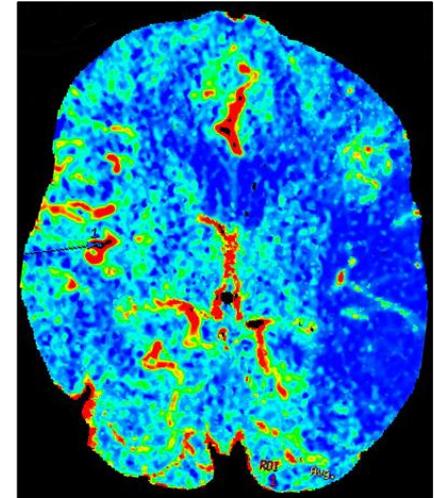
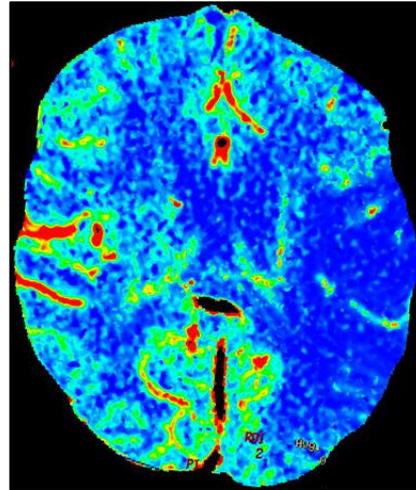
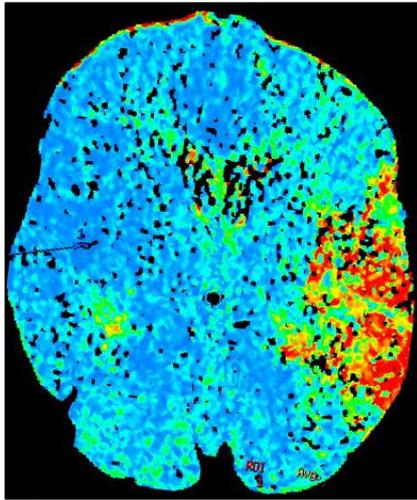
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M. E. f-49

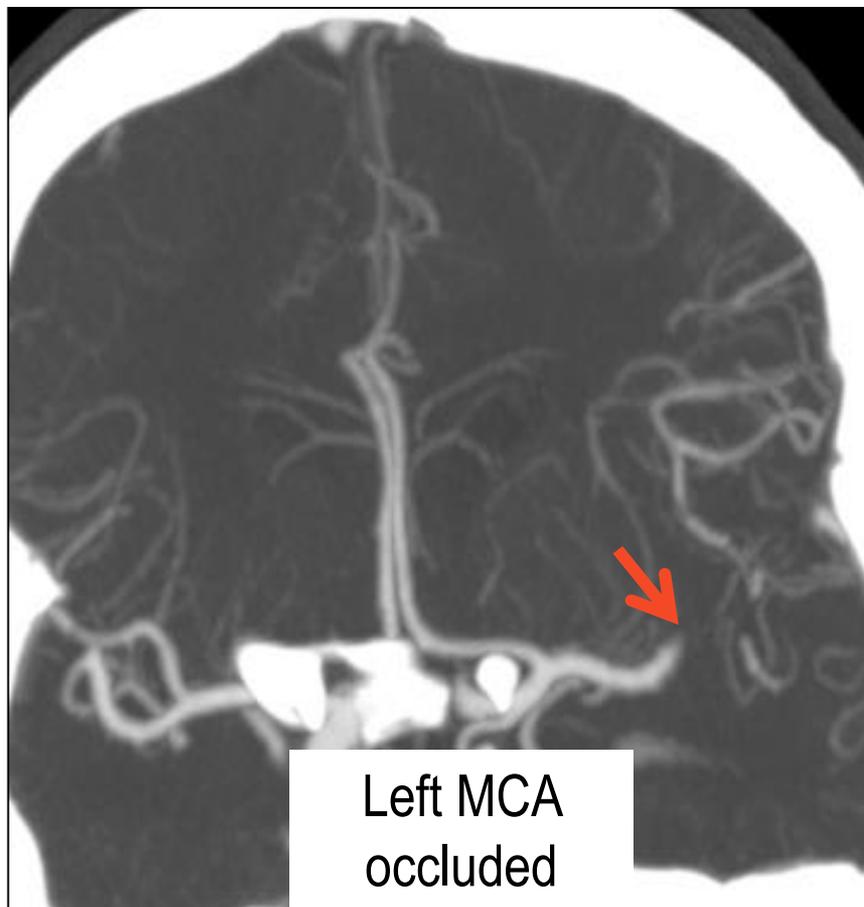
- Acute right sided hemiparesis
- Aphasia
- Time window 5.5 hours



# Acute Stroke - Perfusion Study



# Acute Stroke - CTA



# Acute Stroke

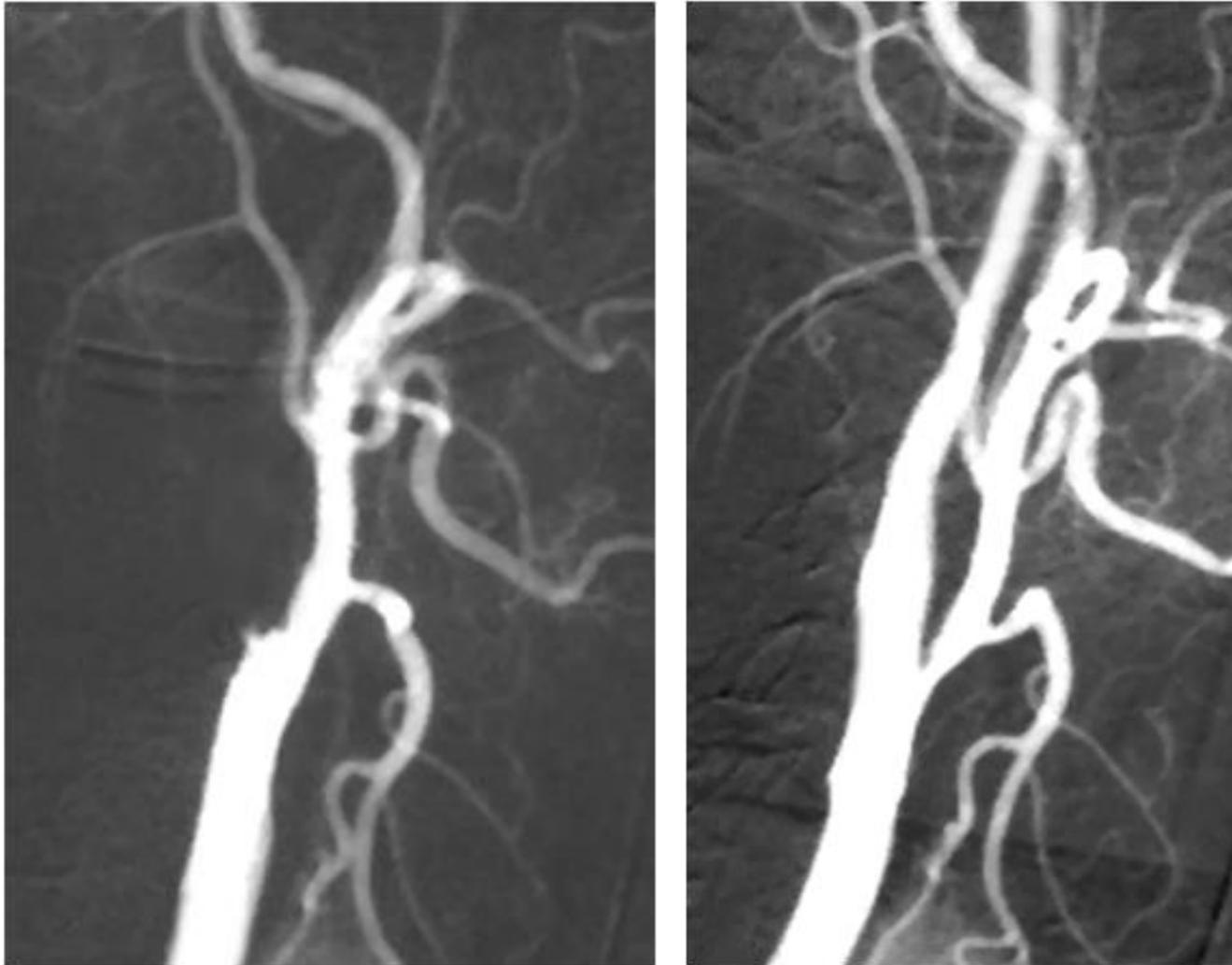
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E. B. f-66

- Acute right sided hemiparesis
- Time window 4 hours ?

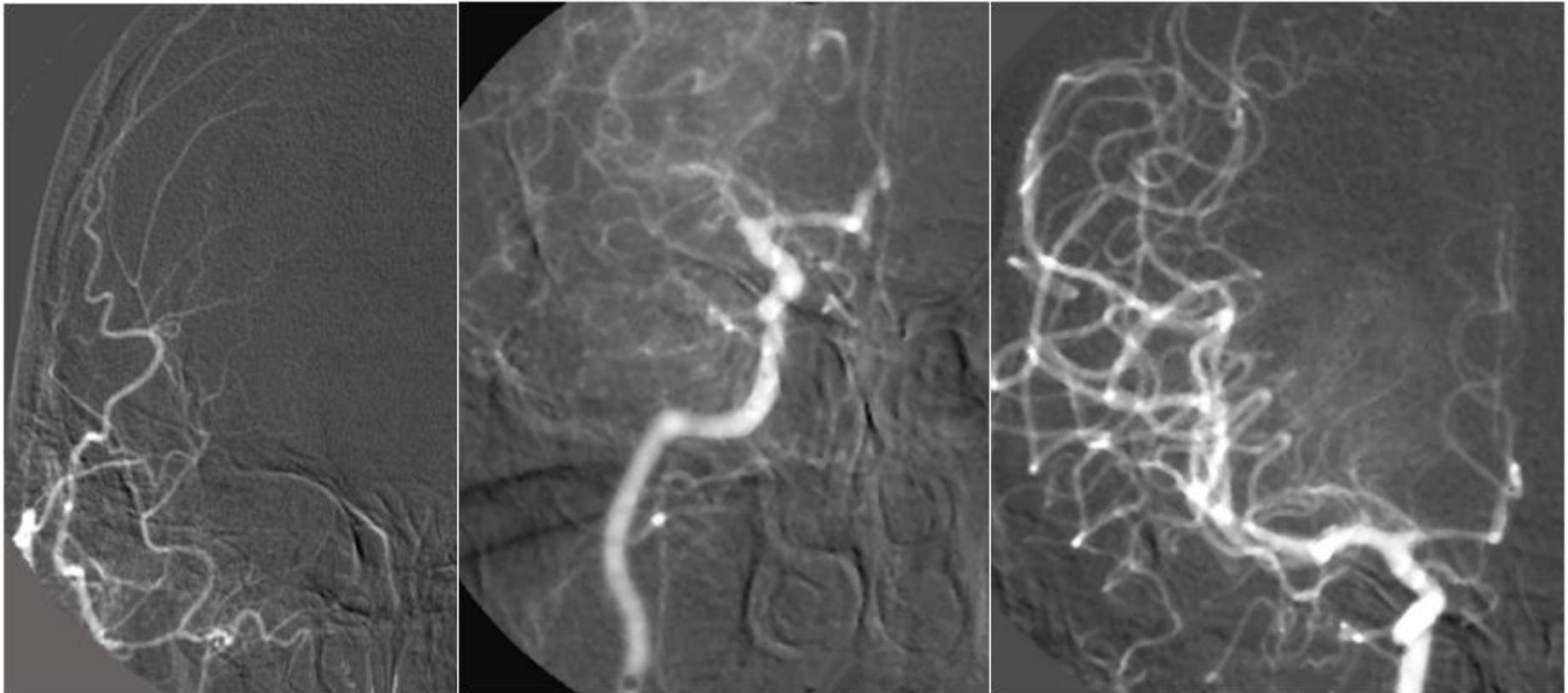


# ICA Occlusion



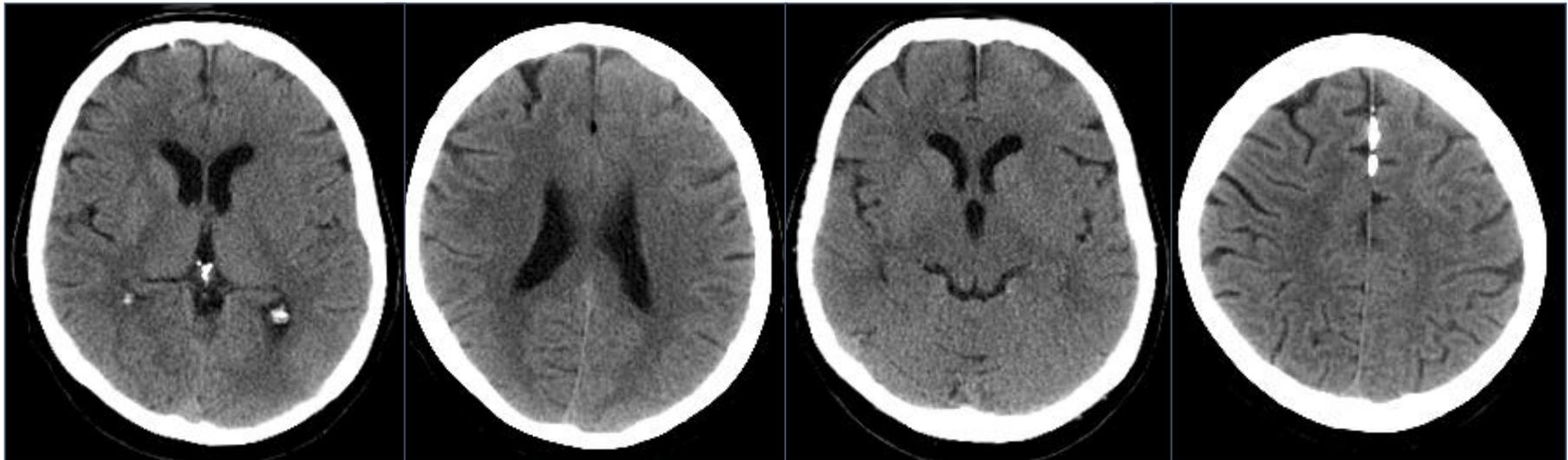


# ICA Occlusion



# ICA Occlusion

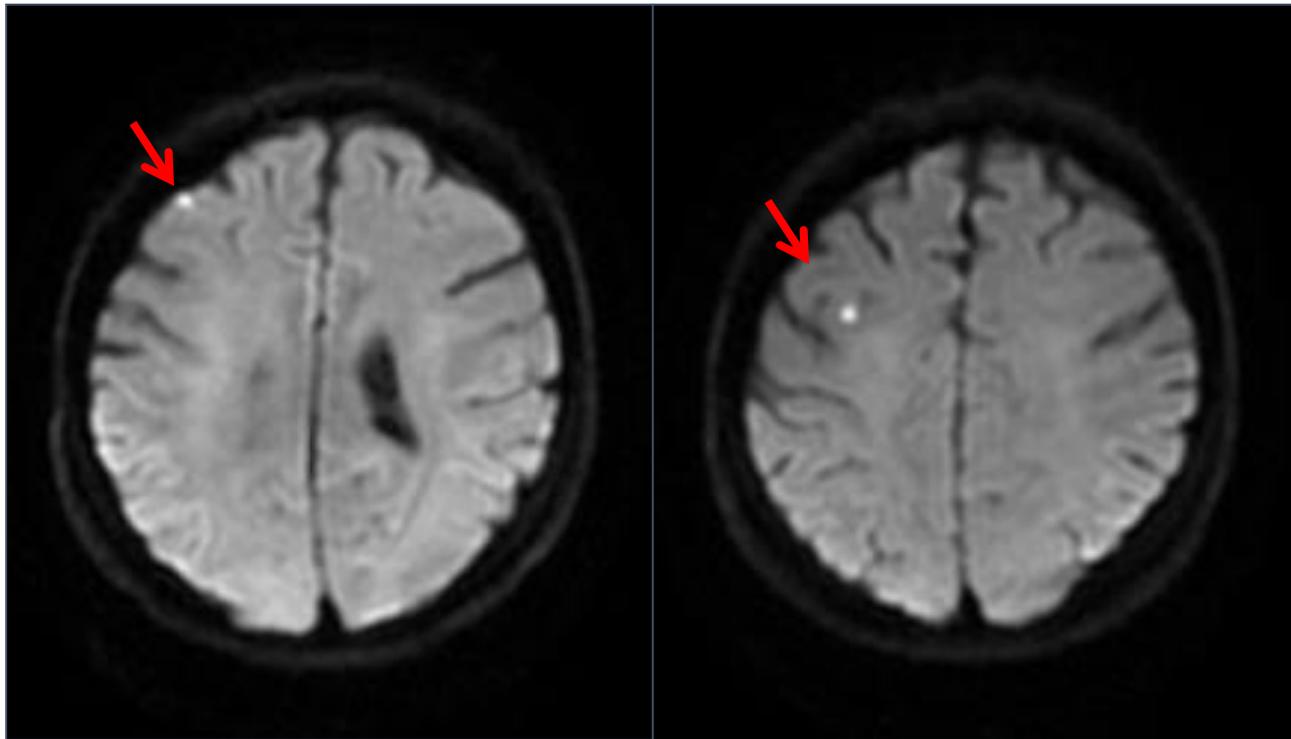
Stroke symptoms disappeared completely



FU CT/MRI after 24 hrs

# ICA Occlusion

Stroke symptoms disappeared completely



MRI after 24 hrs: 2 signal intense spots

An anatomical illustration of a human head in profile, facing left. The skull is shown in a semi-transparent manner, revealing the internal structures of the brain, including the cerebral cortex, white matter, and brainstem. The neck and upper spine are also visible. The background is a vibrant red with a textured, painterly appearance.

*Many thanks for your interest  
in the brain!*