

A few lessons we learnt in stroke

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Disclosure statement of financial interest

Within the past 12 months, I or my spouse/partner have had no financial interest/arrangement or affiliation with any organization(s) .

Disclosure statement of financial interest

I, Dr. Mathew Cherian DO NOT have a financial interest/arrangement or affiliation with one or more organizations that could be perceived as a real or apparent conflict of interest in the context of the subject of this presentation.

K	M
C	H

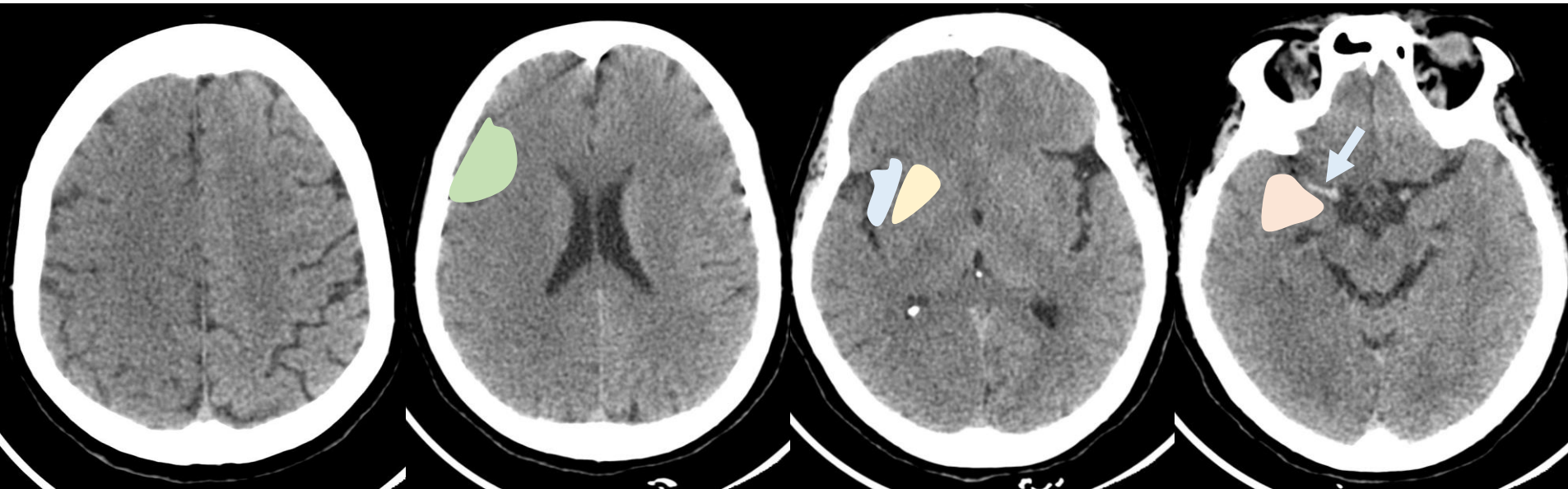


To treat or not when money counts

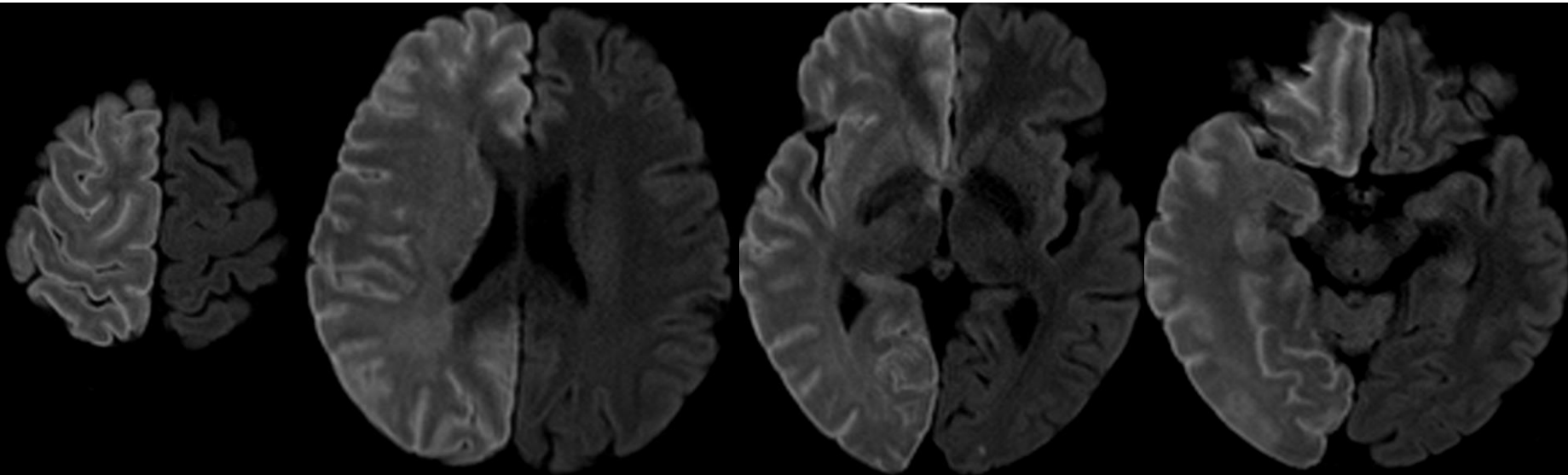
Case - 1

- 64 years old male
- Acute onset left side hemiplegia
- Left UL/LL-0/5
- Slurring of speech
- Left lower facial weakness

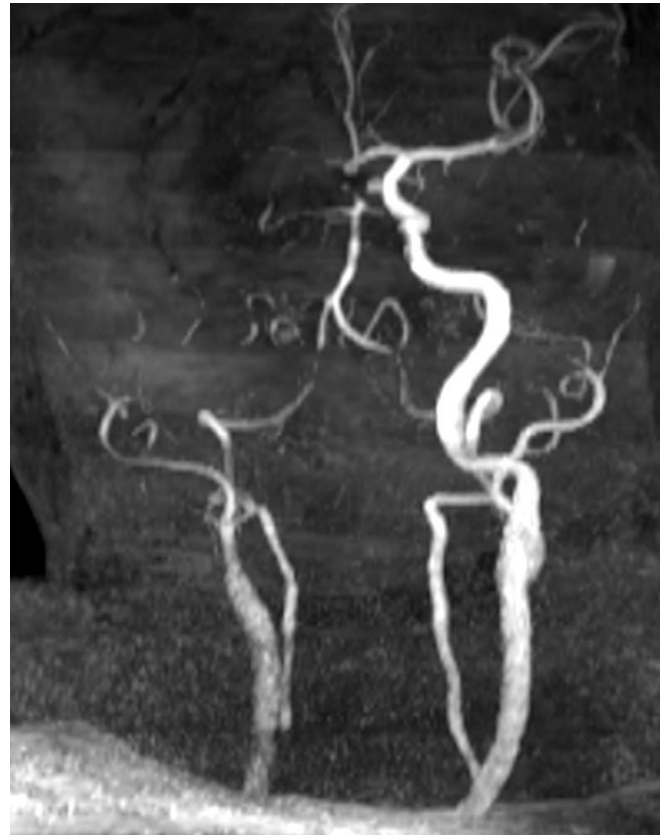
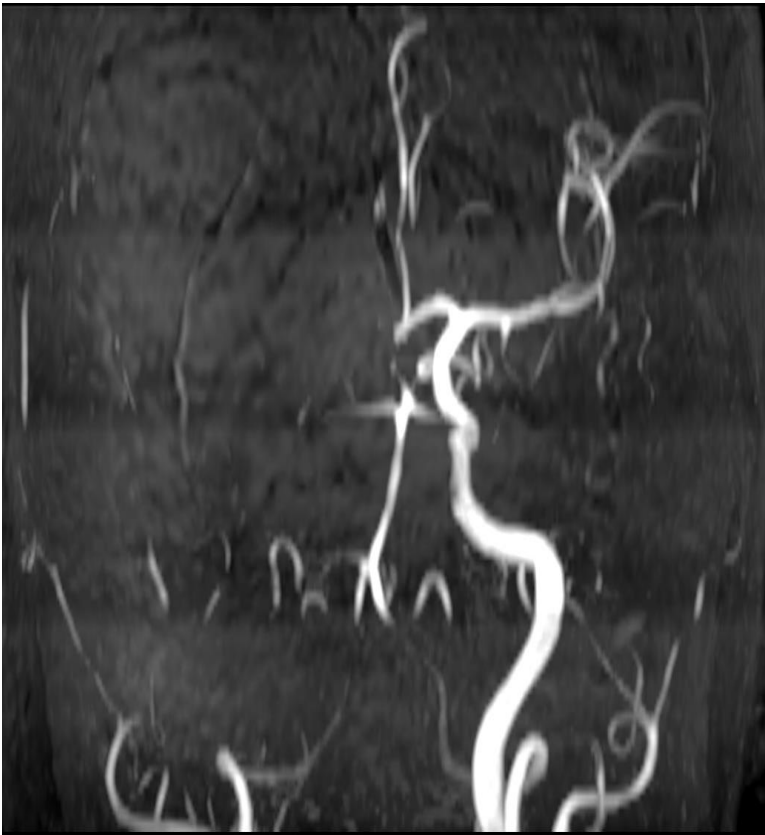
CT Aspect - 7



MR Aspect – 0 , time difference between CT and
DWI- 5 min



Major vessel occlusion



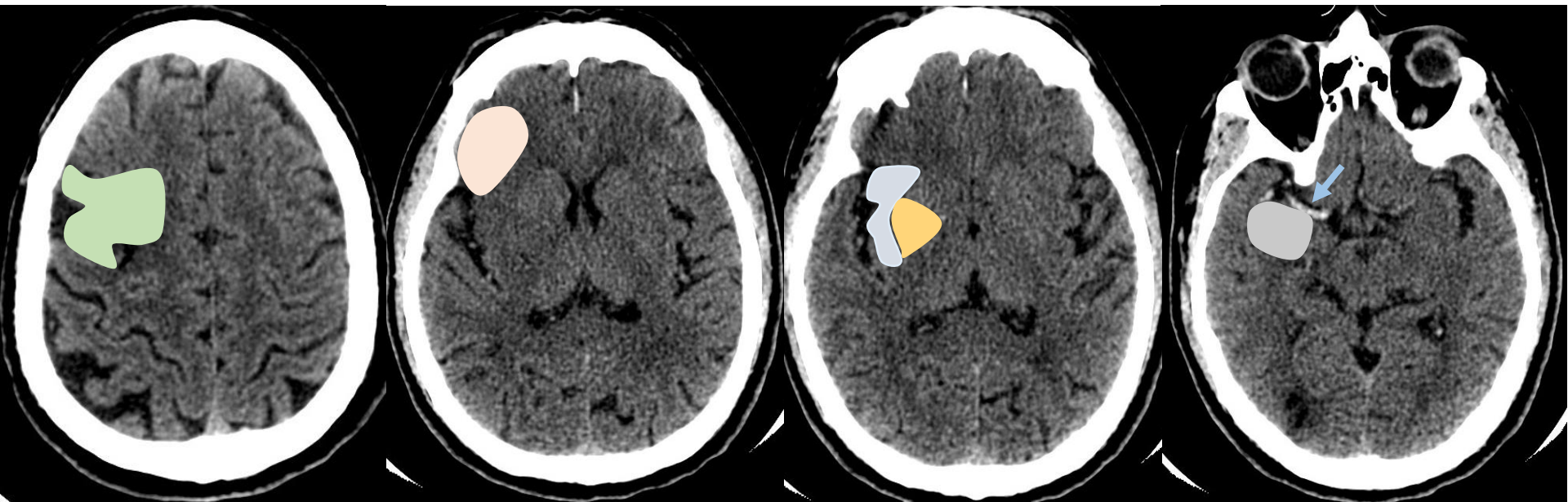
Further management

- We decided not to intervene and explained guarded prognosis for the patient.

Case - 2

- 68 years old male,
- Acute onset left hemiplegia for 2 and half hour duration
- Power in left UL-2/5, left LL-2/5
- Drowsy
- Left facial weakness and aphasia

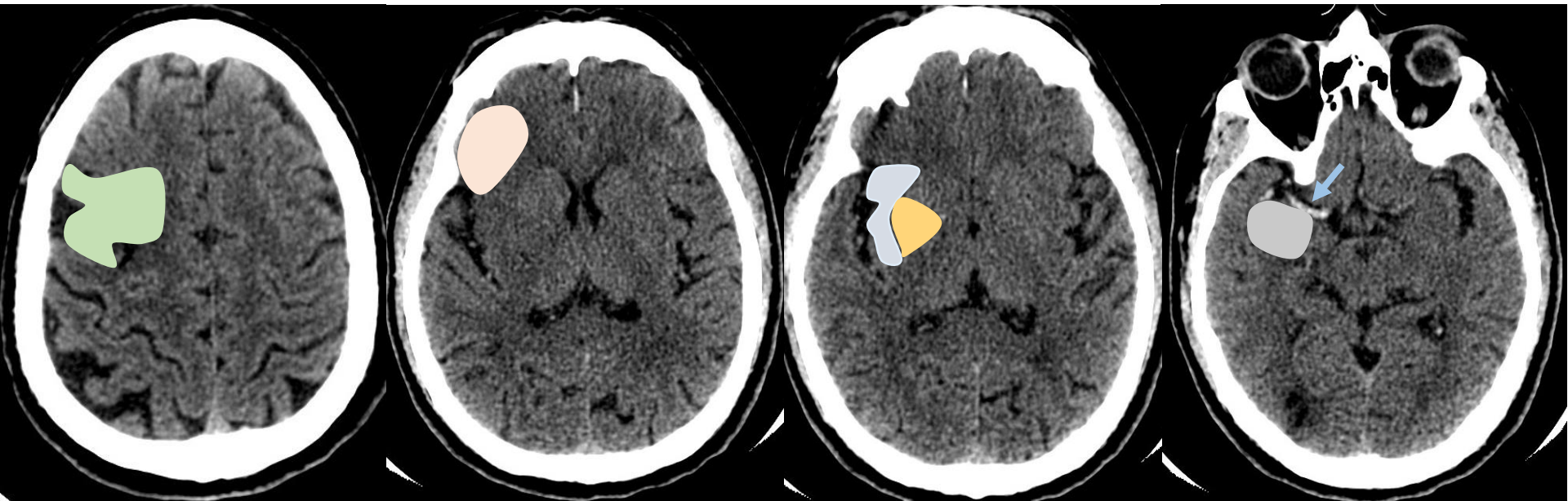
CT Aspect - 6



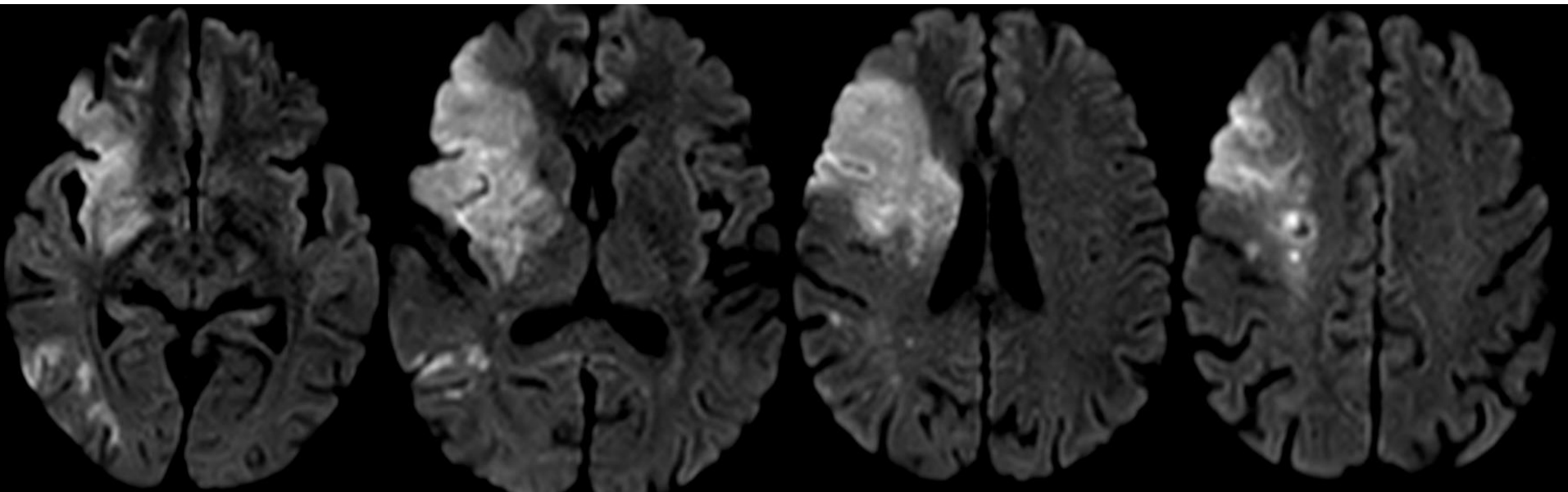
Major vessel occlusion

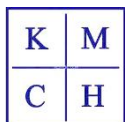


CT Aspect - 6



MR Aspect - 4





Stroke. 2015 Feb;46(2):407-12. doi: 10.1161/STROKEAHA.114.124404.

Alberta stroke program undergoing computerized prediction.McTaggart RA¹, Jovin TG², Lansberg MG³.

+ Author information

Abstract**BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE:** Tomographic scoring (ASPECTS)**METHODS:** Prospectively enrolled patients with acute stroke onset. Inclusion criteria: Rankin Scale scores. Two experts analyzed with the full scale or outcome was defined as a 90**RESULTS:** Seventy-four patients. Both DWI-ASPECTS and CT-ASPECTS outperformed both functional outcome (modified**CONCLUSION:** Inter-rater agreement for ASPECTS for predicting functional

© 2014 American Heart Association

KEYWORDS: brain ischemia; diffusion-weighted imaging

J Stroke Cerebrovasc Dis. 2014 Jan;23(1):37-43.

Comparison of CT and DWIMitomi M¹, Kimura K², Aoki J², Iguchi Y².

+ Author information

Abstract

This study compared the detection rate of magnetic resonance imaging (DWI). In stroke who underwent CT and DWI in the Stroke Program Early CT Score (ASPECTS) detection rate of ischemic lesions was correlated with the CT-ASPECTS score ($P < .001$), lentiform nucleus (43.8% v 3.1%; $P = .006$), M4 (32.3% v 6.9%; $P = .006$), and middle cerebral artery. DWI detected ischemic lesions in the internal capsule.

KEYWORDS: Neuroimaging; detectable rate of stroke

PMID: 23040956 DOI: 10.1016/j.jstrokecerebrovasdis.2013.12.004

Stroke. 2011 Aug;42(8):2196-200. doi: 10.1161/STROKEAHA.111.614404. Epub 2011 Jun 30.

Early ischemic change on CT versus diffusion-weighted imaging for patients with stroke receiving intravenous recombinant tissue-type plasminogen activator therapy: stroke acute management with urgent risk-factor assessment and improvement (SAMURAI) rt-PA registry.Nezu T¹, Koga M, Nakagawara J, Shiokawa Y, Yamagami H, Furui E, Kimura K, Hasegawa Y, Okada Y, Okuda S, Kario K, Naganuma M, Maeda K, Minematsu K, Toyoda K.

+ Author information

Abstract

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE: Alberta Stroke Programme Early CT Score (ASPECTS) is a quantitative topographical score to evaluate early ischemic change in the middle cerebral arterial territory on CT as well as on diffusion-weighted imaging (DWI). The aim of the present study was to elucidate the relationship between CT-ASPECTS and DWI-ASPECTS for patients with hyperacute stroke and their associations with outcomes after recombinant tissue-type plasminogen activator therapy based on a multicenter registry.

METHODS: ASPECTS was assessed on both CT and DWI before intravenous 0.6 mg/kg alteplase in 360 patients with stroke (119 women, 71 ± 11 years old). The outcomes were symptomatic intracerebral hemorrhage within 36 hours and independence at 3 months defined by a modified Rankin Scale score of 0 to 2.

RESULTS: DWI-ASPECTS was positively correlated with CT-ASPECTS ($\rho = 0.511$, $P < 0.001$) and was lower than CT-ASPECTS (median 8 [interquartile range, 6 to 9] versus 9 [8 to 10], $P < 0.001$). Higher baseline National Institutes of Health Stroke Scale score (standardized partial regression coefficient [β] 0.061, $P < 0.001$) and cardioembolic stroke (β 0.35, $P < 0.001$) were related to this discrepancy. The area under the receiver operating characteristic curve for predicting sICH (12 patients) using ASPECTS was 0.673 (95% CI, 0.503 to 0.807) by CT and 0.764 (95% CI, 0.635 to 0.858) by DWI ($P = 0.275$). The area for predicting independence at 3 months (192 patients) was 0.621 (0.564 to 0.674) by CT and 0.639 (0.580 to 0.694) by DWI ($P = 0.535$).

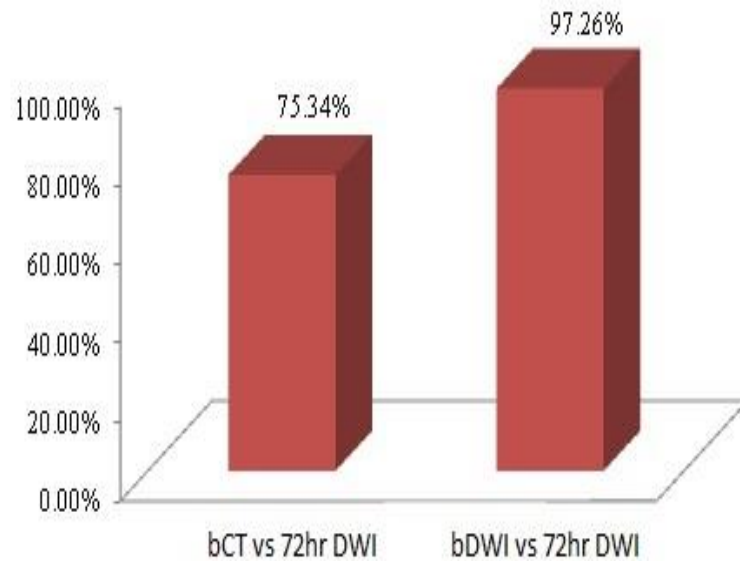
CONCLUSIONS: For patients with hyperacute stroke, DWI-ASPECTS scored approximately 1 point lower than CT-ASPECTS. Both CT-ASPECTS and DWI-ASPECTS were useful predictors of symptomatic intracerebral hemorrhage and independence at 3 months after recombinant tissue-type plasminogen activator.



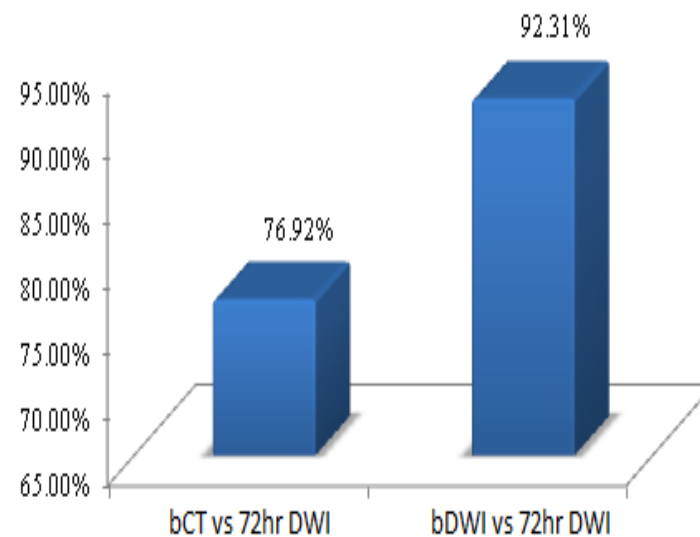
Prediction of final infarct size after successful
reperfusion therapy- comparison of CT and DWI
MRI- **KMCH** experience

Comparison between CT and DWI Aspect and 72 hour DWI Aspect

Sensitivity



Specificity



K	M
C	H



Lesson 1: MRI can prognostic better

K	M
C	H



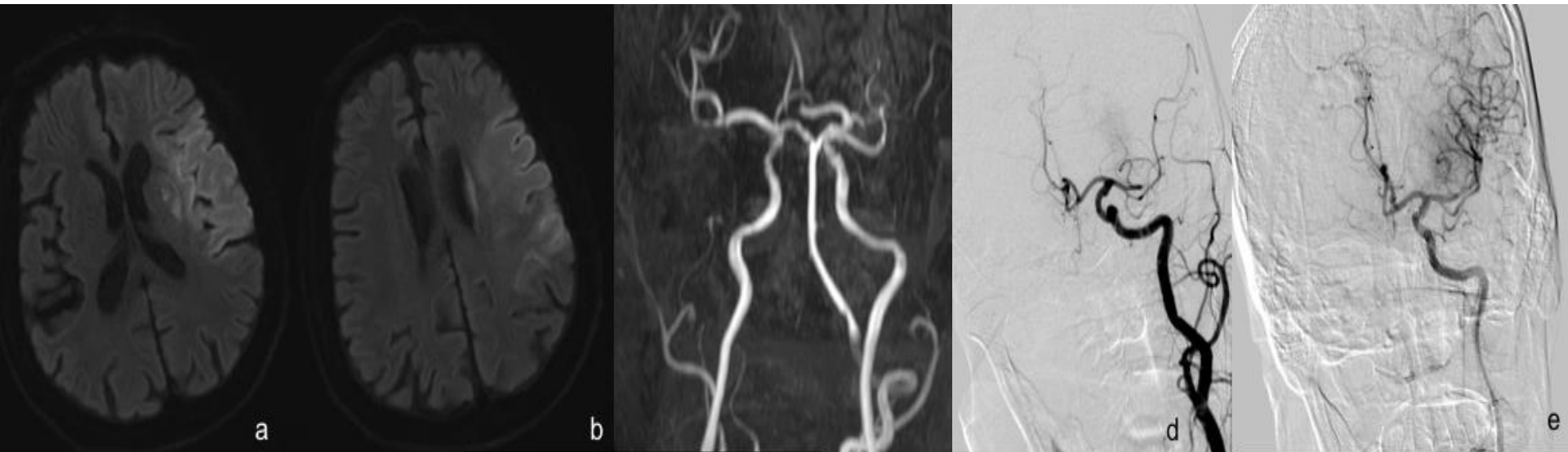
Post-procedure imaging dilemma of contrast staining versus reperfusion hemorrhage

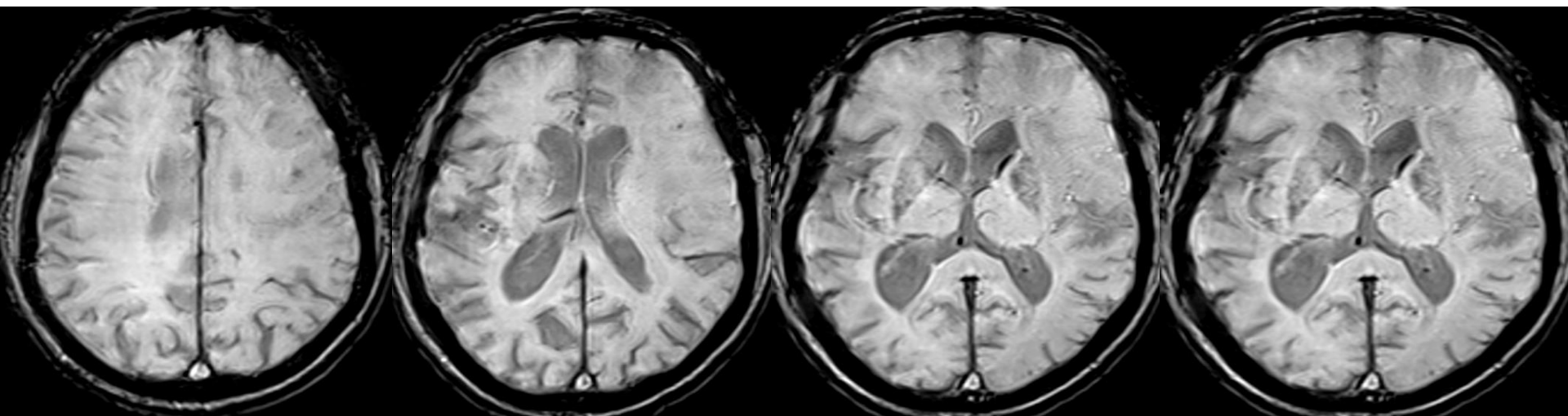
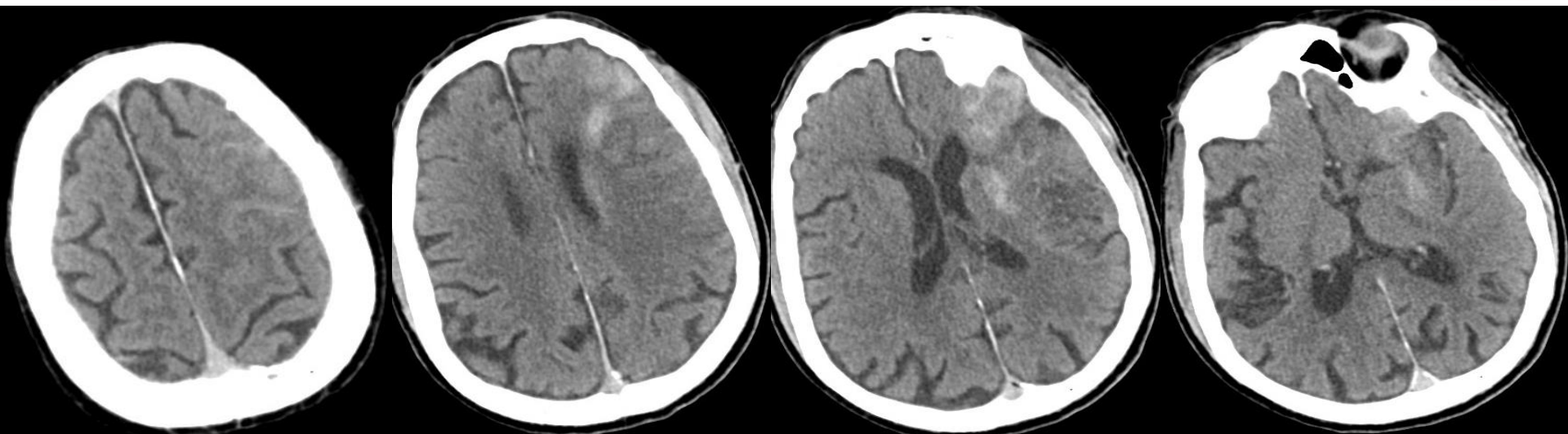


Case - 1

- 78 years old male
- Right hemiplegia and aphasia for 3 hours
- DM, HTN

DWI Aspect – 5, Left M1 occlusion, Mechanical thrombectomy TICI flow 3





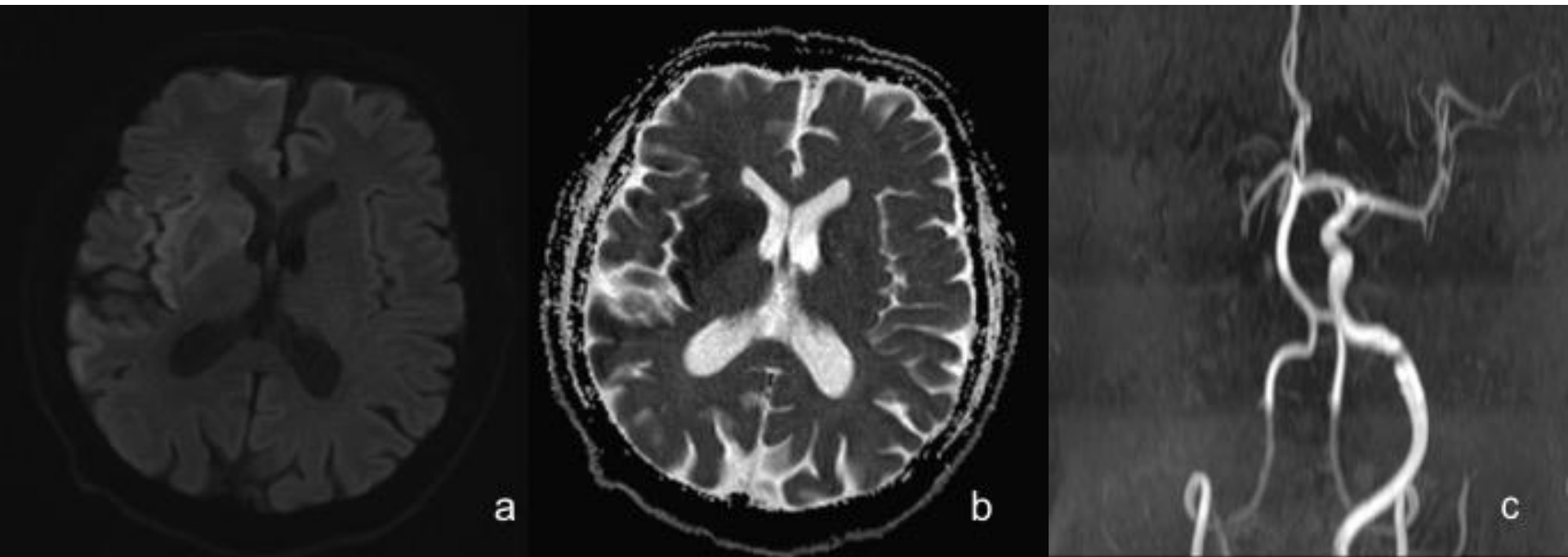
Further medical management

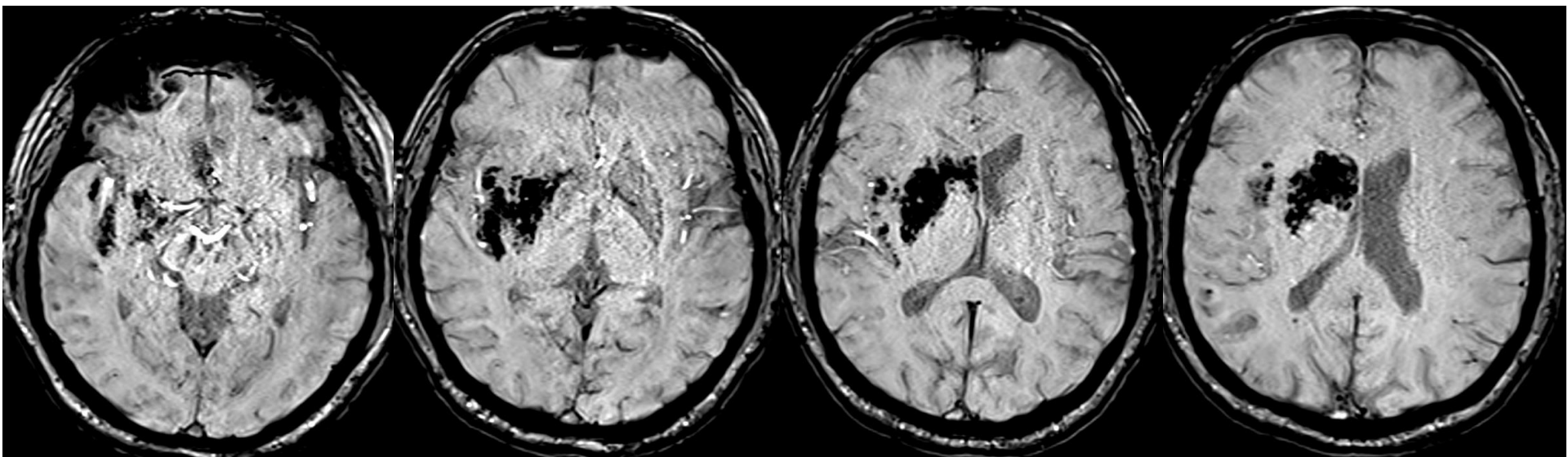
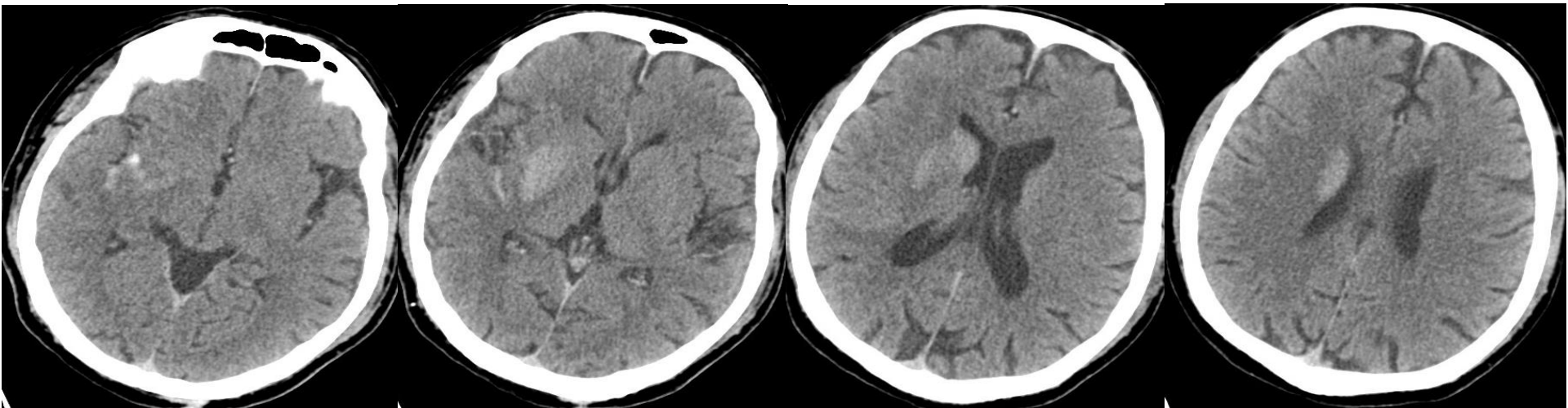
- Repeat imaging after 12 hours to rule out any further bleed.
- If there is no bleed :
 - 12 hours: a). Tab Ecospirin 300 mg stat followed by 75 mg Ecospirin OD
b). Injection Heparin 5000 IU S.C. BD
 - 48 hours: 75 mg Clopidogrel OD

Case 2

- 57 years old male
- Previous CABG, on dual antiplatelets
- Left hemiplegia and dysarthria for 4 hours

DWI Aspect – 6, Right ICA occlusion, post MT with suction aspiration, TICI flow-3





K	M
C	H








Initial 72 hours management

- Heparin and dual antiplatelets were avoided.
- Patient had gradual recovery of neurological function with left upper limb power of 2/5 and lower limb power of 3/5 at 72 hrs.

Crux

- One of the most common findings seen in immediate post-intervention period in NCCT brain is- hyper-attenuated areas.
- It is seen upto 85% cases.
- It can be due to contrast staining in infarcted brain parenchyma or can be due to reperfusion hemorrhage.
- It is difficult to differentiate between two on NCCT.
- It is paramount importance to differentiate between two following intervention for further management in form of antiplatelet and anti-coagulants.
- SWI is problem solving tool.

MRI Appearance of Intracerebral Iodinated Contrast Agents: Is It Possible to Distinguish Extravasated Contrast Agent from Hemorrhage?

 O. Nikoubashman,  F. Jablawi,  S. Dekeyser,  A.M. Oros-Peusquens,  Z. Abbas,  J. Lindemeyer,  A.E. Othman,  N.J. Shah, and  M. Wiesmann



ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE: Hyperattenuated cerebral areas on postinterventional CT are a common finding after endovascular stroke treatment. There is uncertainty about the extent to which these hyperattenuated areas correspond to hemorrhage or contrast agent that extravasated into infarcted parenchyma during angiography. We evaluated whether it is possible to distinguish contrast extravasation from blood on MR imaging.

MATERIALS AND METHODS: We examined the influence of iodinated contrast agents on T1, T2, and T2* and magnetic susceptibility in a phantom model and an ex vivo animal model. We determined T1, T2, and T2* relaxation times and magnetic susceptibility of iopamidol and iopromide in dilutions of 1:1; 1:2; 1:4; 1:10; and 1:100 with physiologic saline solution. We then examined the appearance of intracerebral iopamidol on MR imaging in an ex vivo animal model. To this end, we injected iopamidol into the brain of a deceased swine.

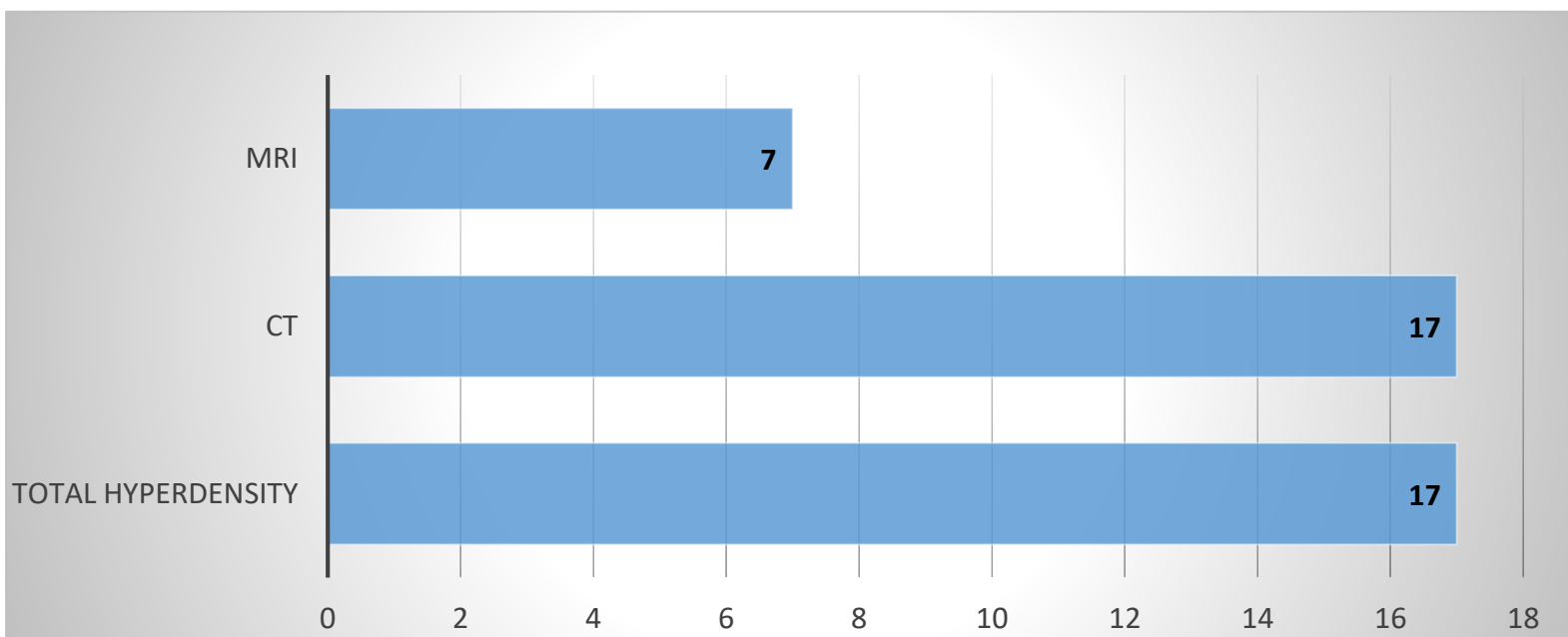
RESULTS: Iopamidol and iopromide cause a negative susceptibility shift and T1, T2, and T2* shortening. The effects, however, become very small in dilutions of 1:10 and higher. Undiluted iopamidol, injected directly into the brain parenchyma, did not cause visually distinctive signal changes on T1-weighted spin-echo, T2-weighted turbo spin-echo, and T2*-weighted gradient recalled-echo imaging.

CONCLUSIONS: It is unlikely that iodinated contrast agents extravasated into infarcted brain parenchyma cause signal changes that mimic hemorrhage on T1WI, T2WI, and T2*WI. Our results imply that extravasated contrast agents can be distinguished from hemorrhage on MR imaging.



Problem solving by susceptibility weighted MRI
after mechanical thrombectomy in acute stroke
“Contrast versus acute bleed”- [KMCH experience](#)

Comparison of CT vs SWI in immediate stroke period- KMCH stroke study



K	M
C	H



Lesson 2: SWI can differentiate contrast staining from reperfusion hemorrhage

K	M
C	H

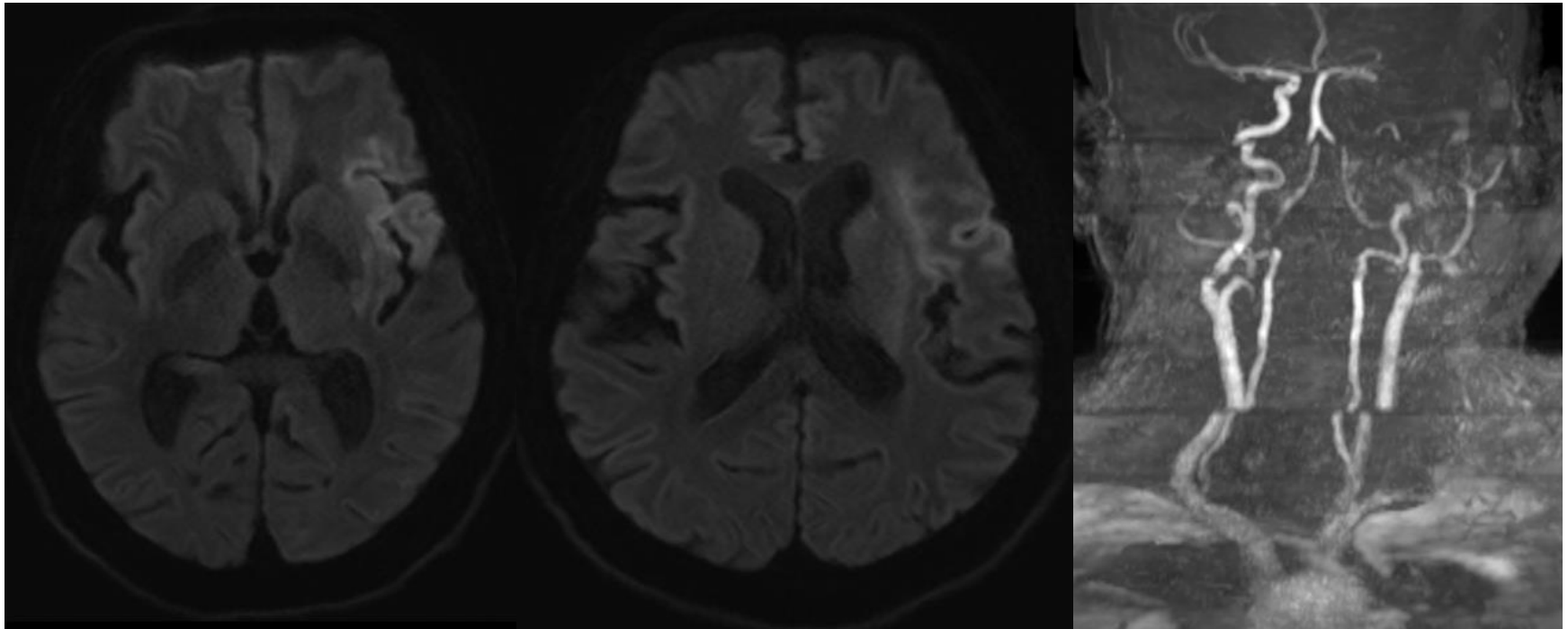


When there is ICA stenosis/occlusion

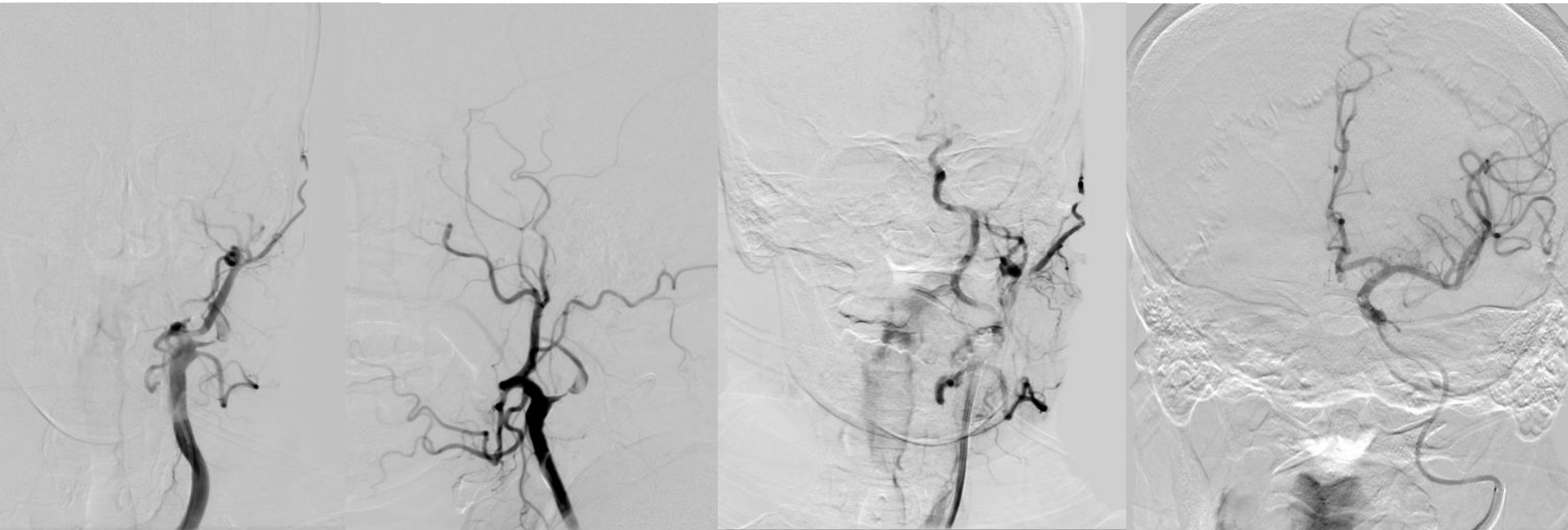
Case - 1

- 68 years old male
- Acute onset right upper and lower limb weakness and right facial weakness since 1 and half hour.
- Power in right UL-0 and right LL-0
- Facial deviation to right side
- Slurring of speech
- NIHSS score 17

DWI Aspect – 7



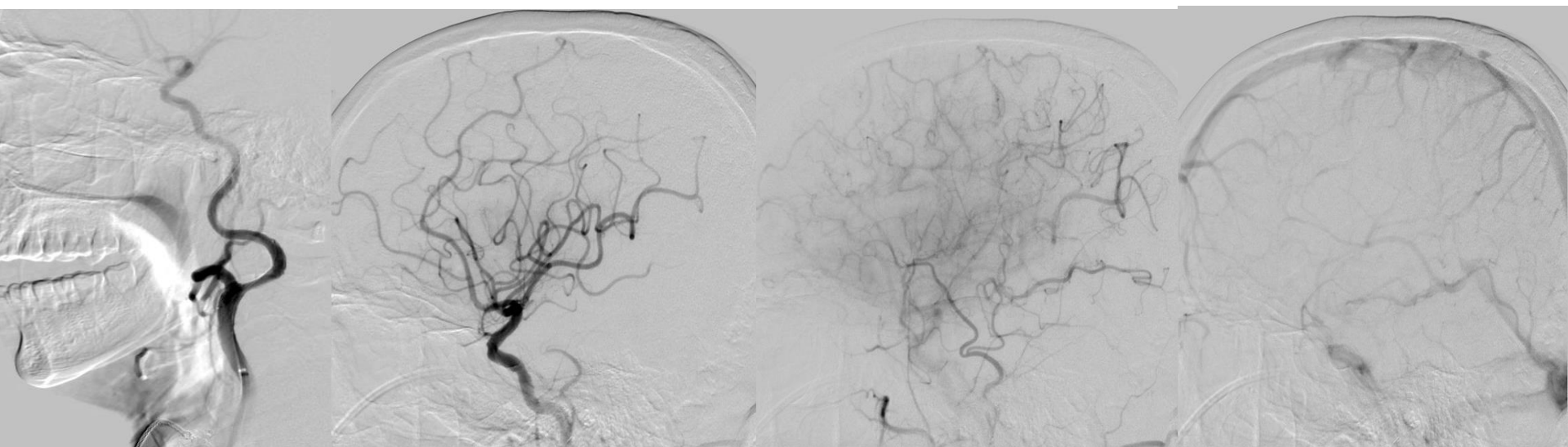
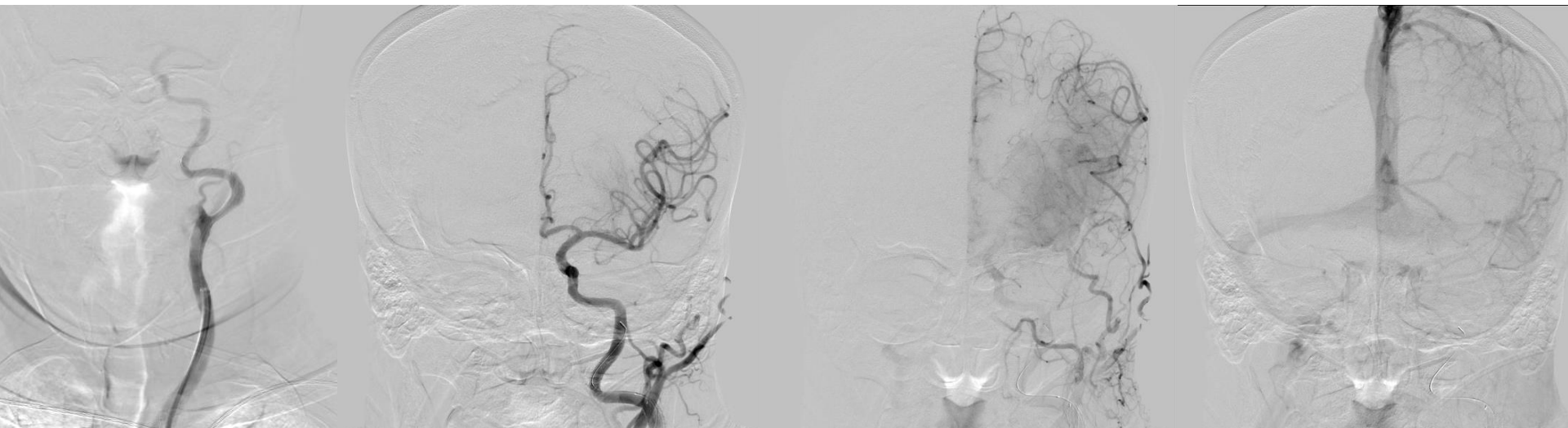
Suction aspiration with Neuron Max and ACE- 68



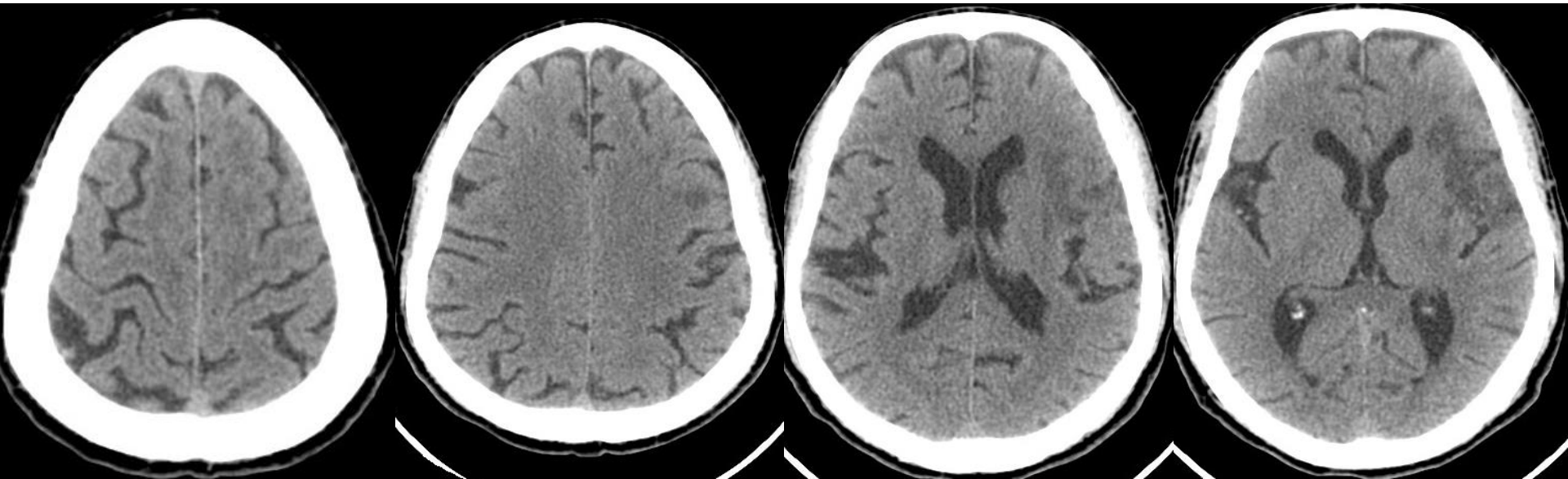


ICA stenting was done
in last





Post – procedure 24 hr CT



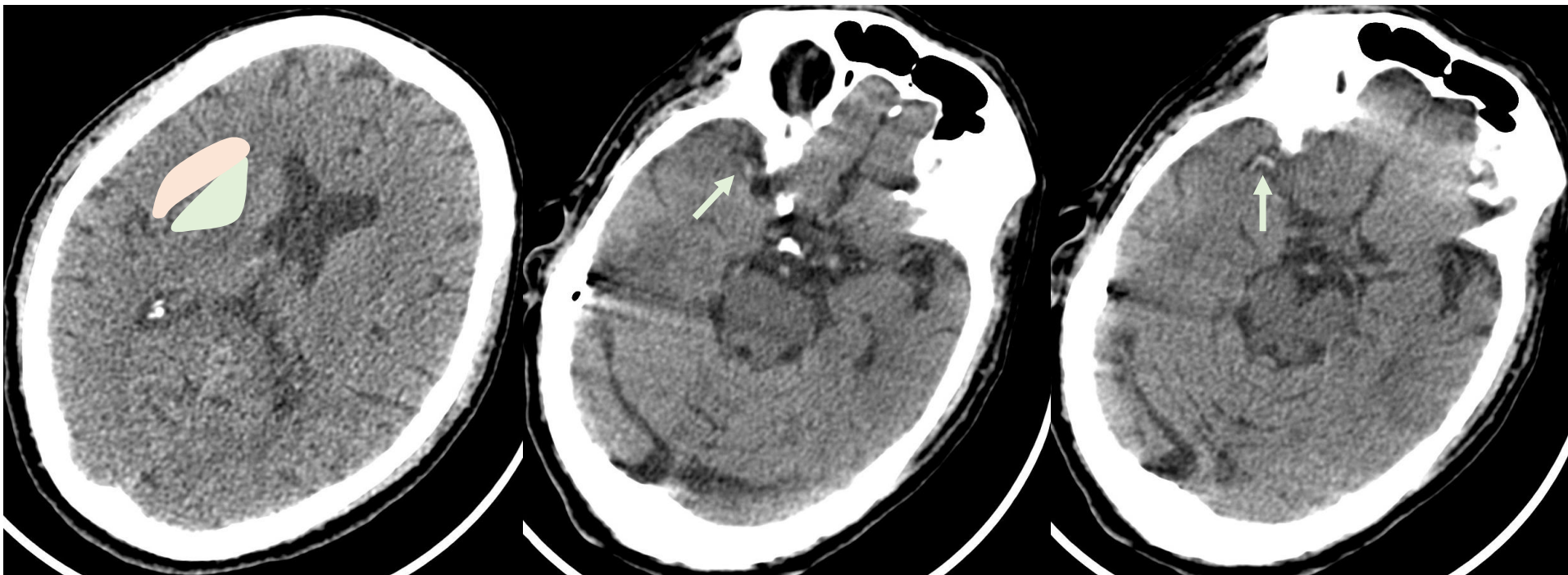
Follow up

- Patient NIHSS score dropped from 17 to 8 at 24 hours
- 1 MONTHS mRS was 1.
- 3 MONTHS mRS was 0.

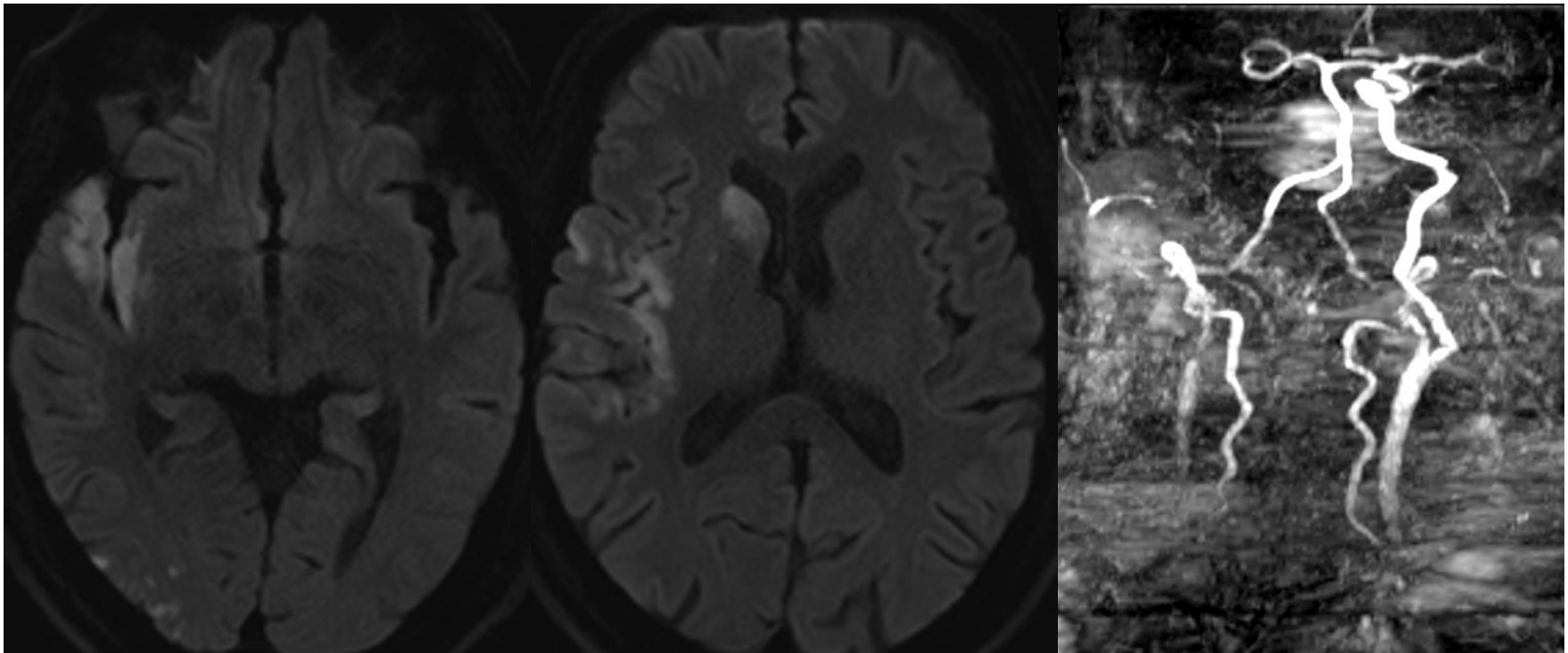
Case-2

- 75 years old male,
- Acute onset left upper and lower limb weakness and left side facial weakness since 1 and half hour.
- Power in left UL-0 and left LL-0
- Facial deviation to right side
- Slurring of speech
- NIHSS score 16

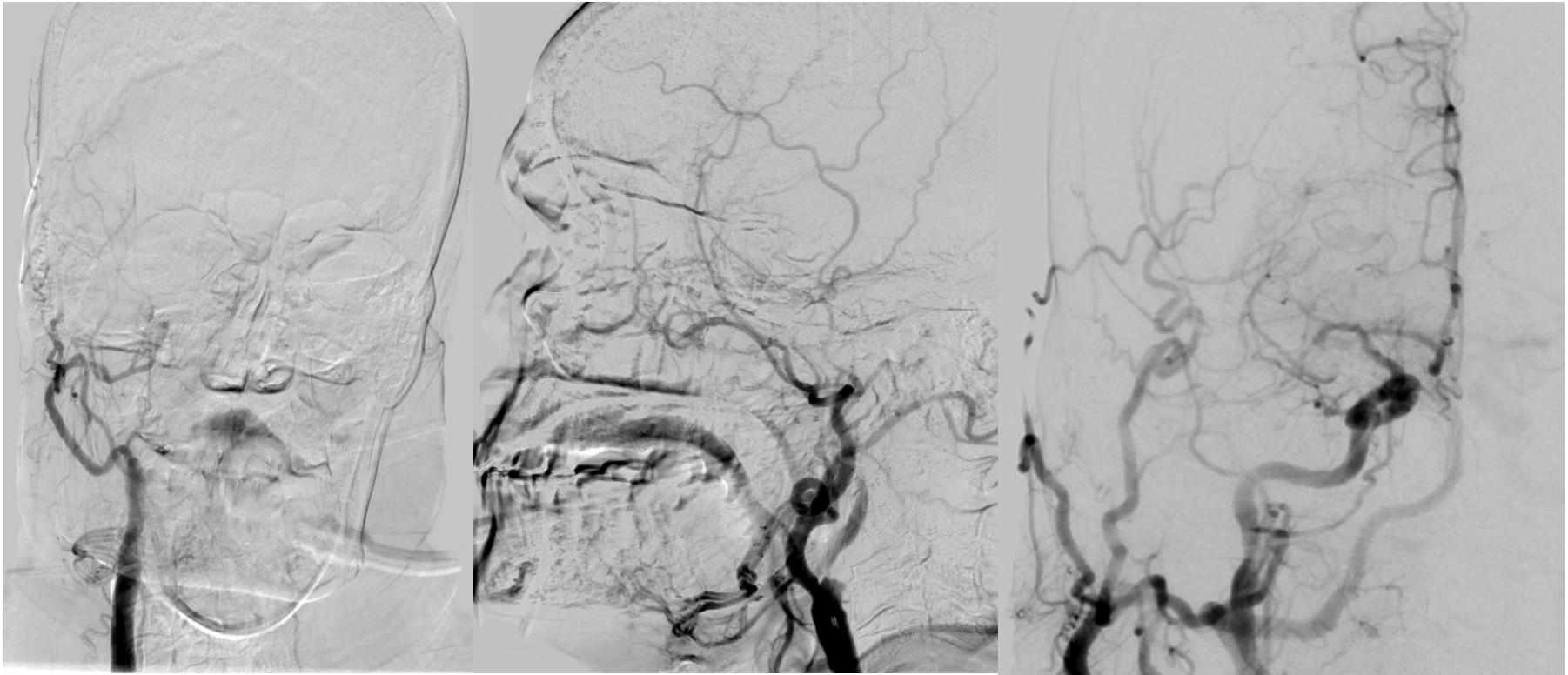
CT Aspect - 8



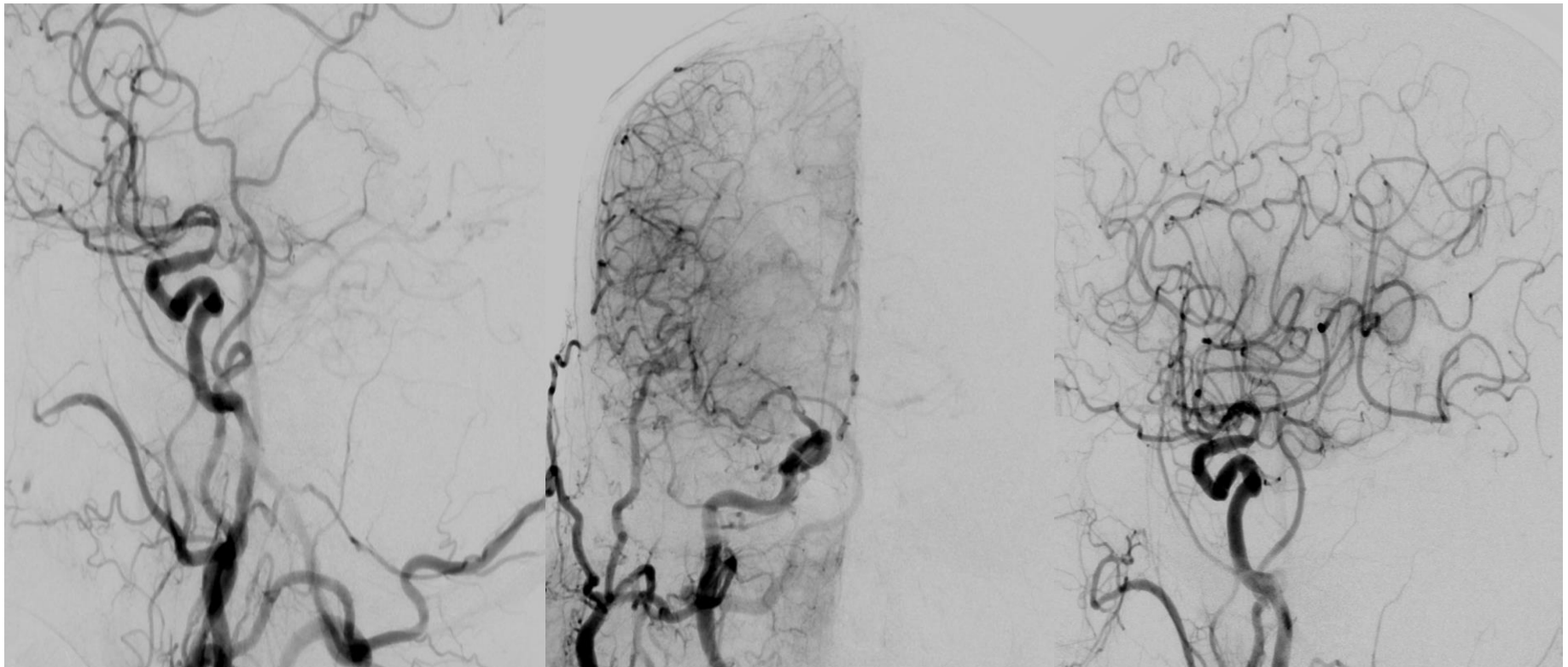
MR Aspect - 7



Tandem occlusion- right ICA occlusion with MCA occlusion



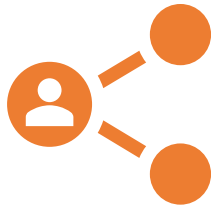
Suction aspiration with Neuron max followed by stent- retriever : TICI flow 3



10 mins check angiogram : ICA re-occlusion



Antiplatelet

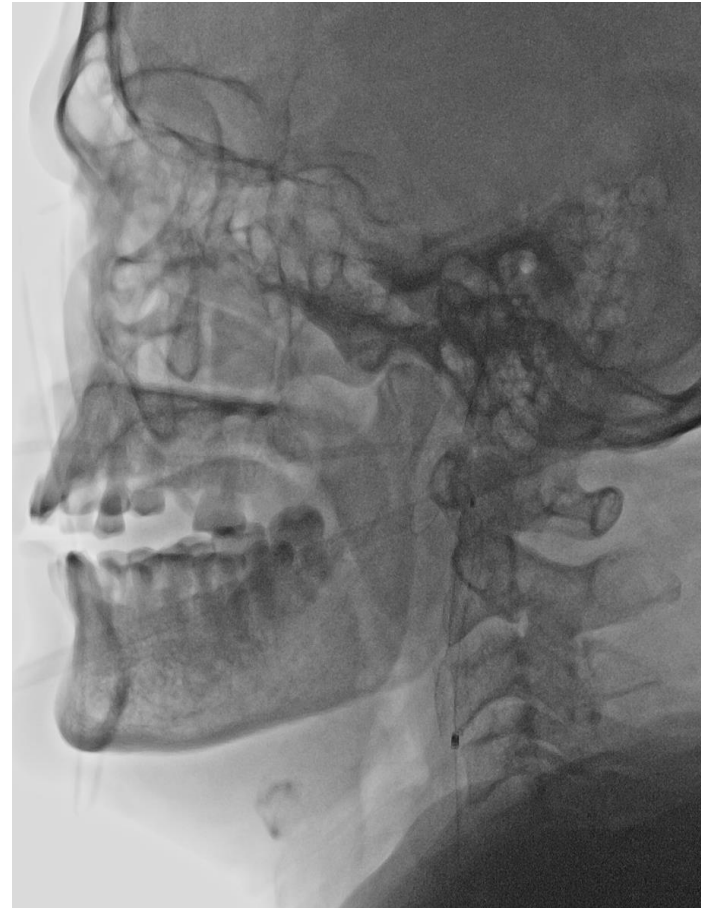


Loaded with antiplatelet

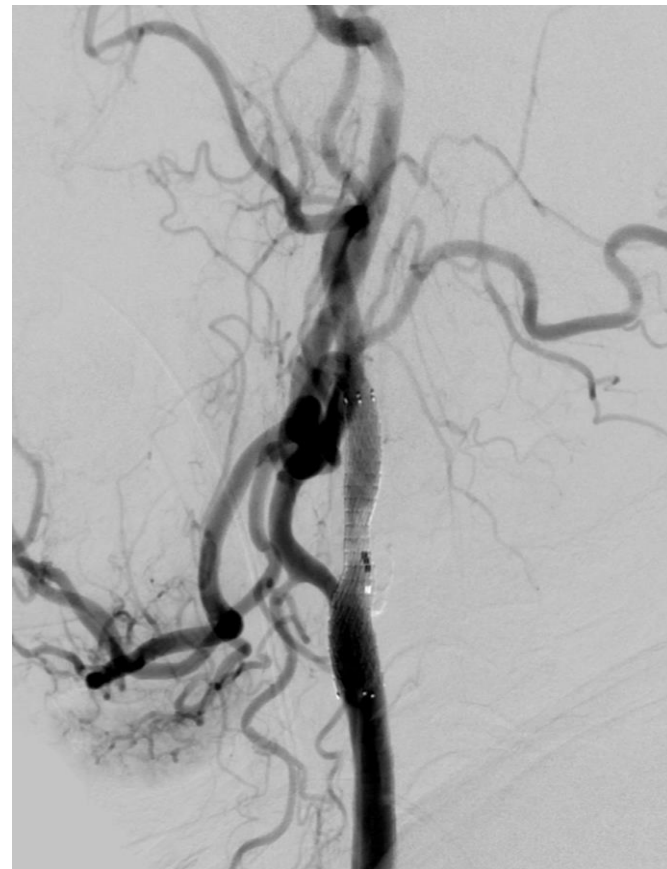
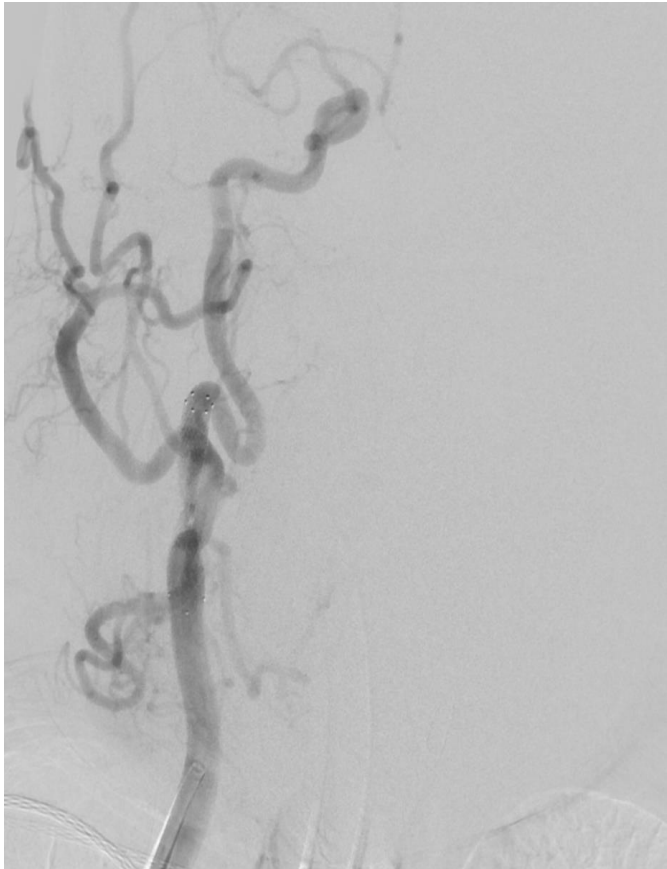


Tab Ecospirin- 300 mg

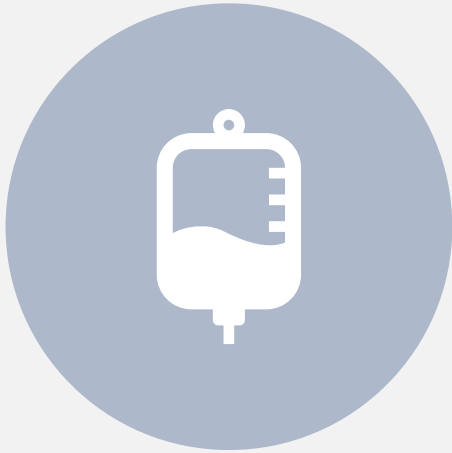
Right carotid stenting : As bailout procedure



10 min check angiogram : In-stent thrombosis



Gp-IIb/IIIa Inhibitor

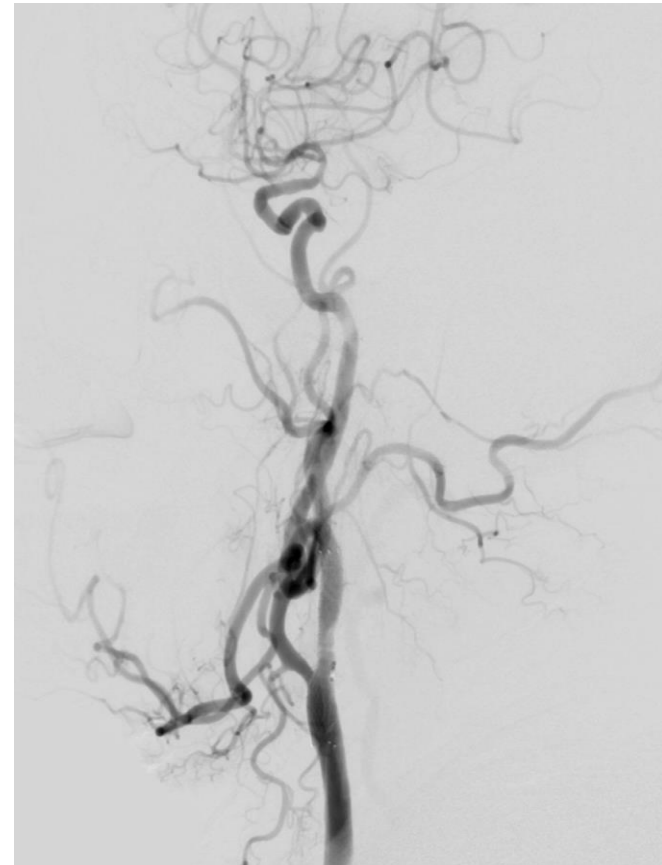


Tirofiban 13 ml intra-arterial
bolus

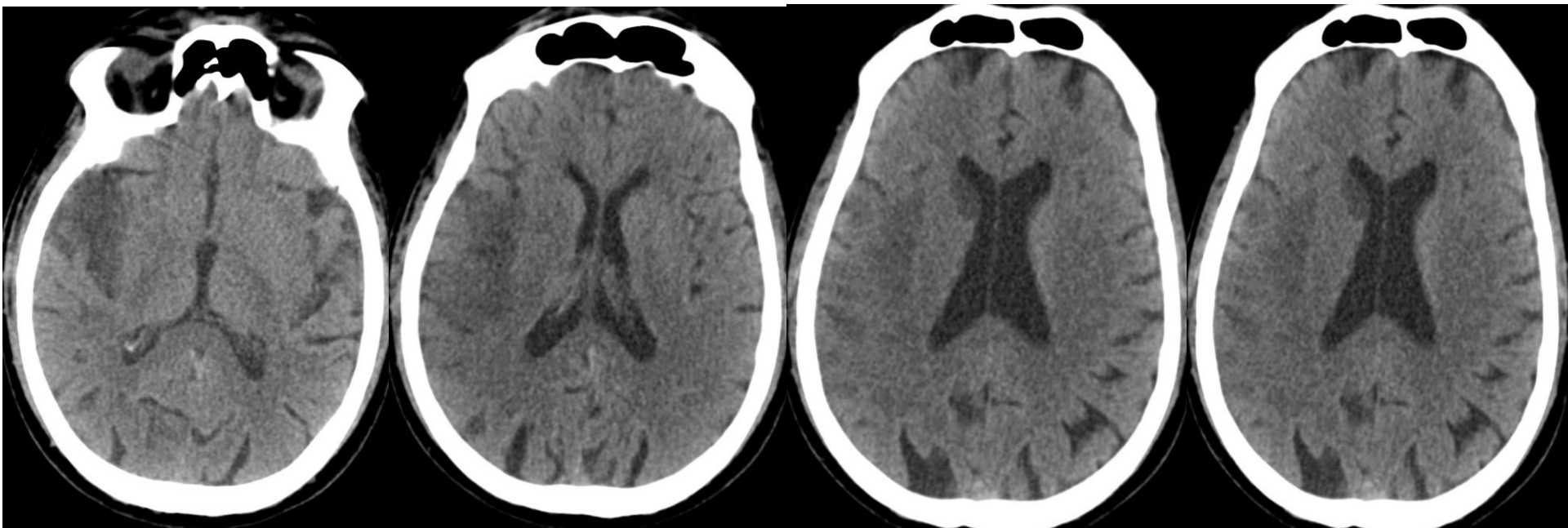


7 ml/hr for 4 hours

30 min check angiogram



Follow up CT at 24 hours – post endovascular treatment



Follow up



At 24 hours, NHISS score
dropped from 16 to 10



At discharge NHISS score
5, mRS is 3



At 3 months NHISS score
2, mRS is 1

K	M
C	H



Lesson 3: Carotid stenting should be done only if it's a must and at the end of procedure

K	M
C	H



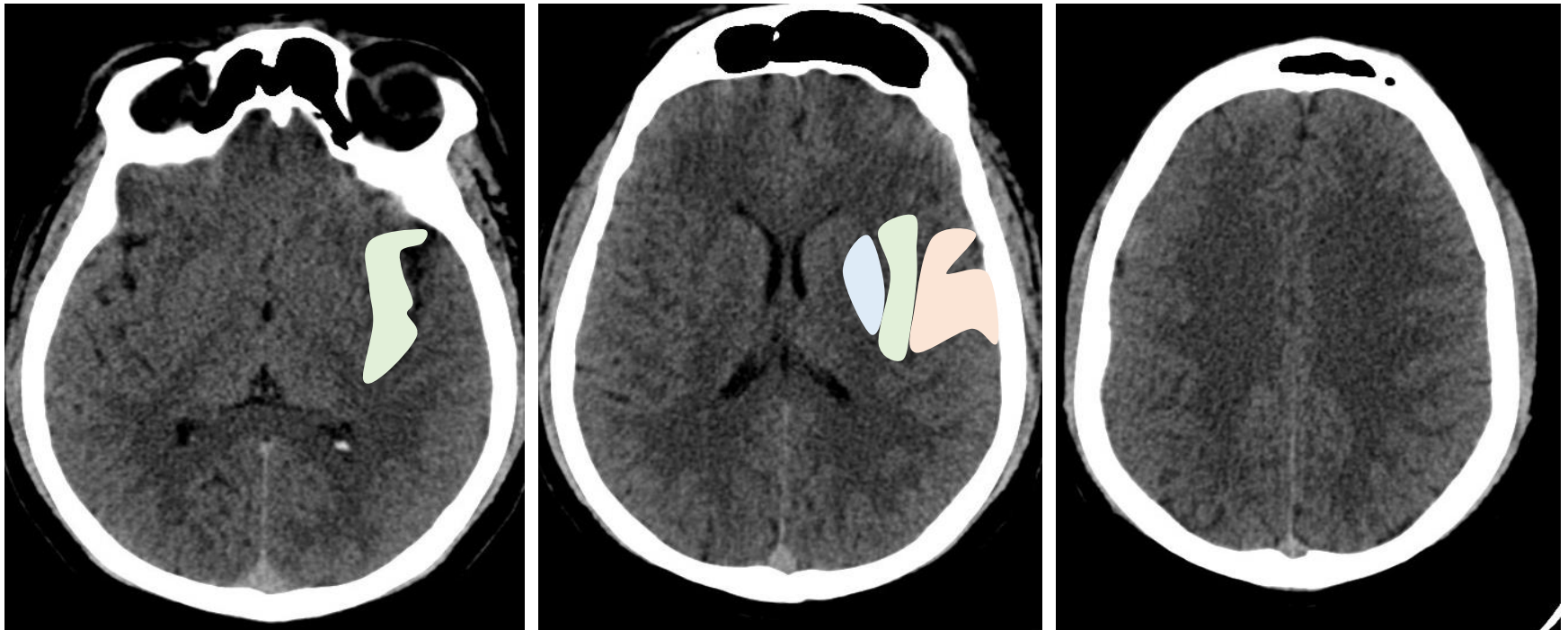
Stroke cases: Where suction aspiration is not a choice



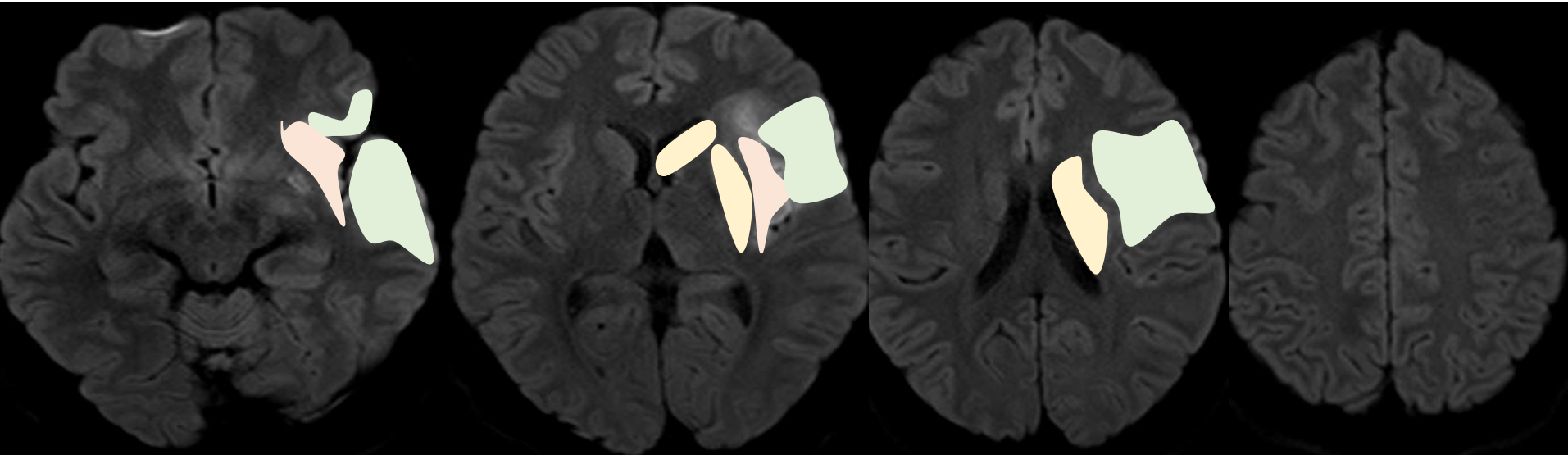
Case - 1

- 27 Yrs old male
- Right hemiplegia and aphasia
- 3 hours
- Post alcoholic binge
- NIHSS score 15

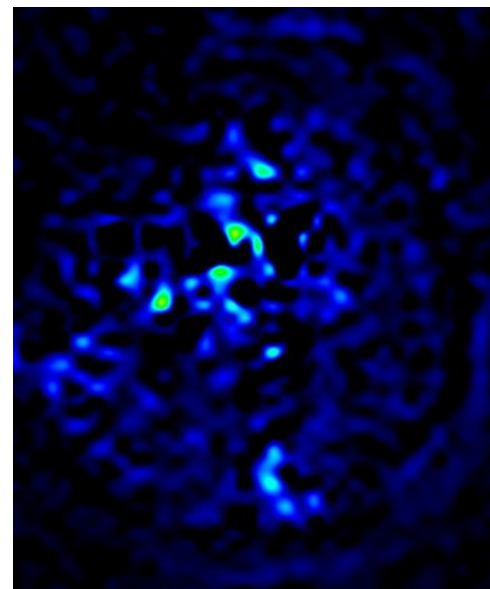
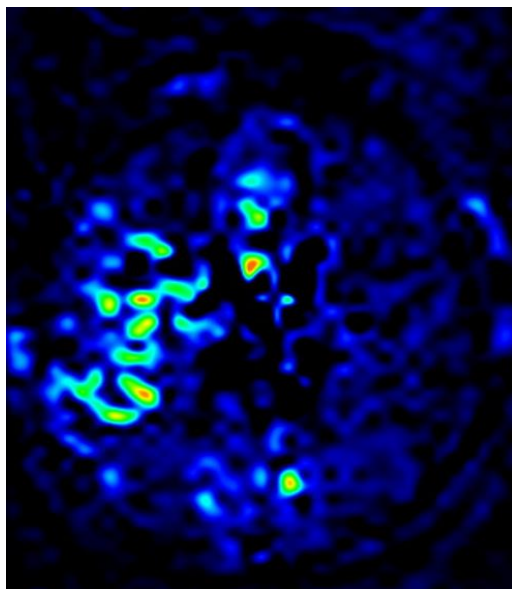
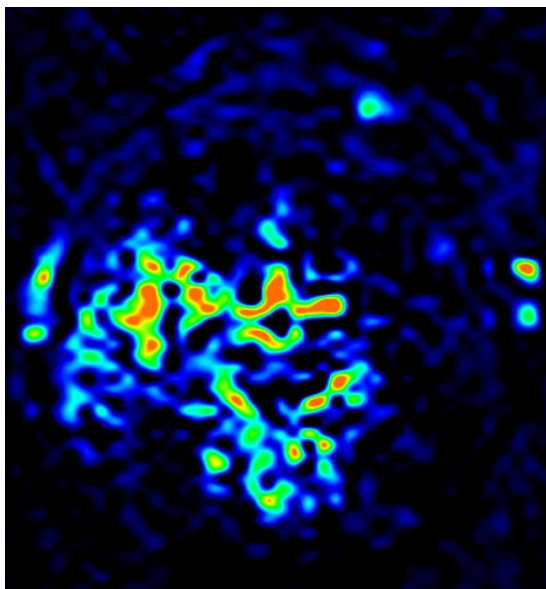
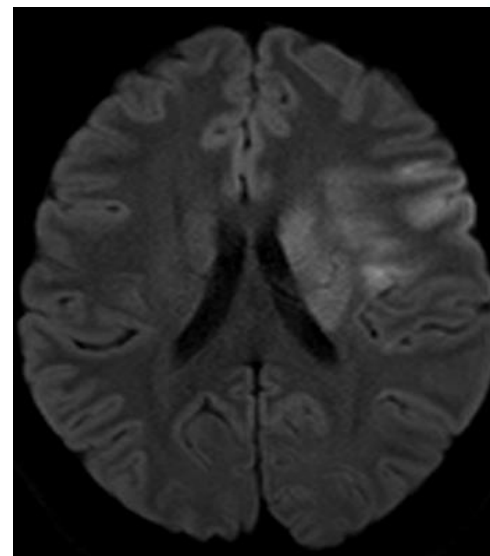
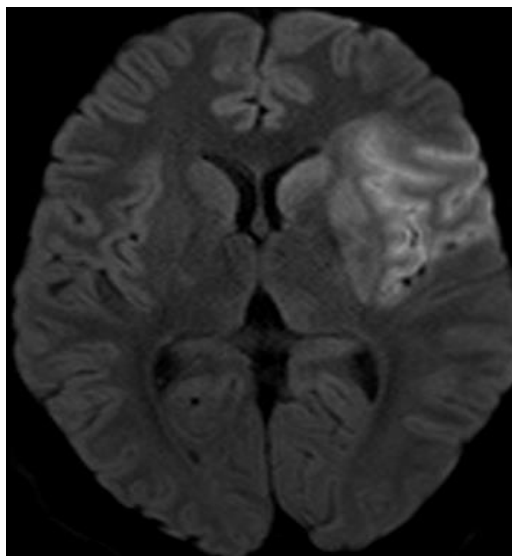
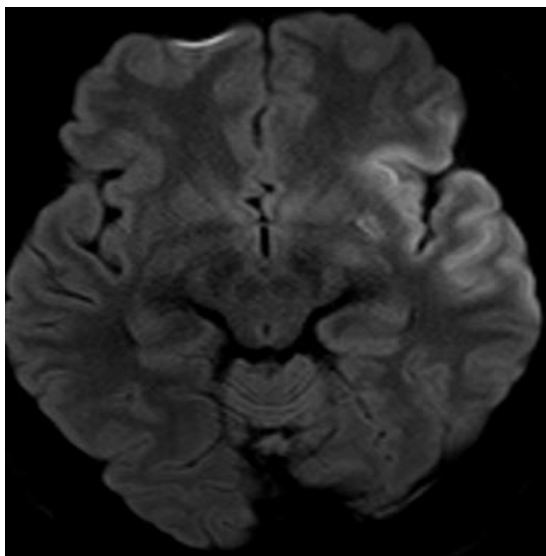
CT Aspect - 7



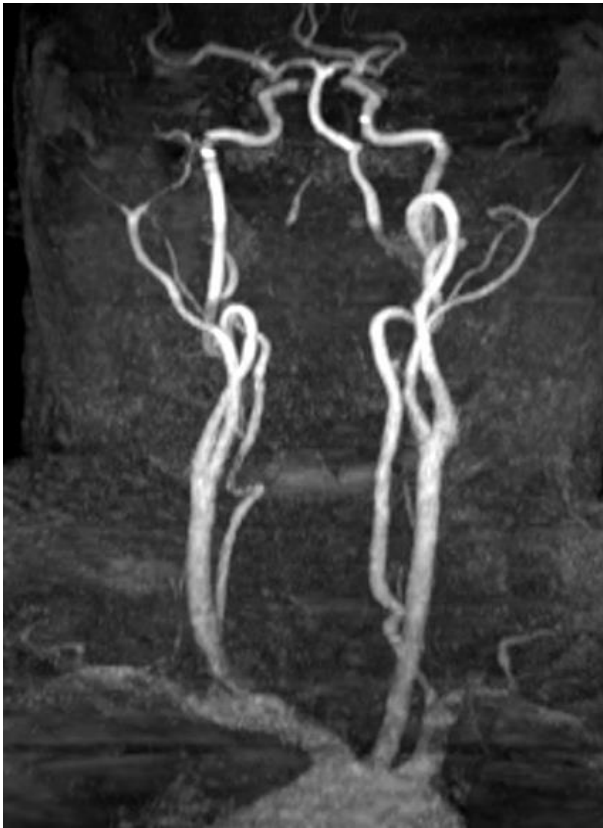
MR Aspect - 6



K	M
C	H



Tortuous left ICA loop





Devices

Neuron max guide catheter/ sheath was positioned in the left CCA.

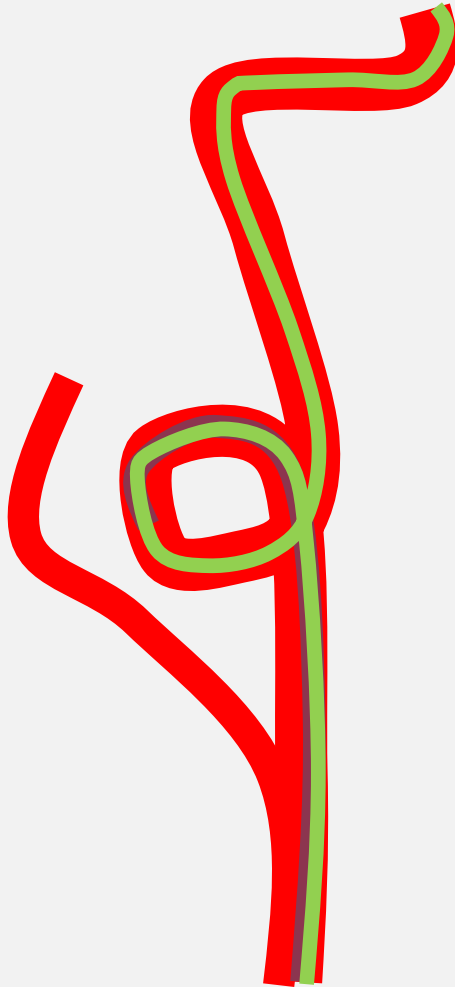
Attempt to take 5max across the tonsillar loop

K	M
C	H

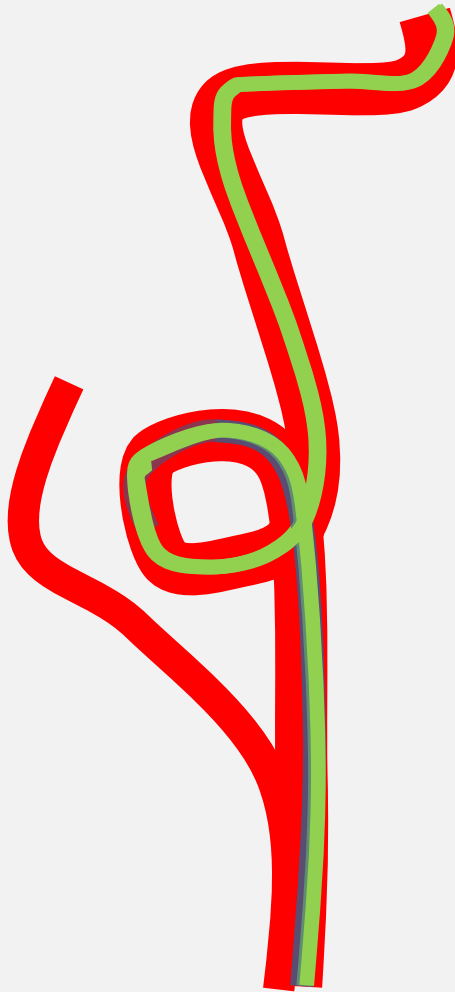
ICCA STROKE 2019



Neuron max & Aspiration
catheter



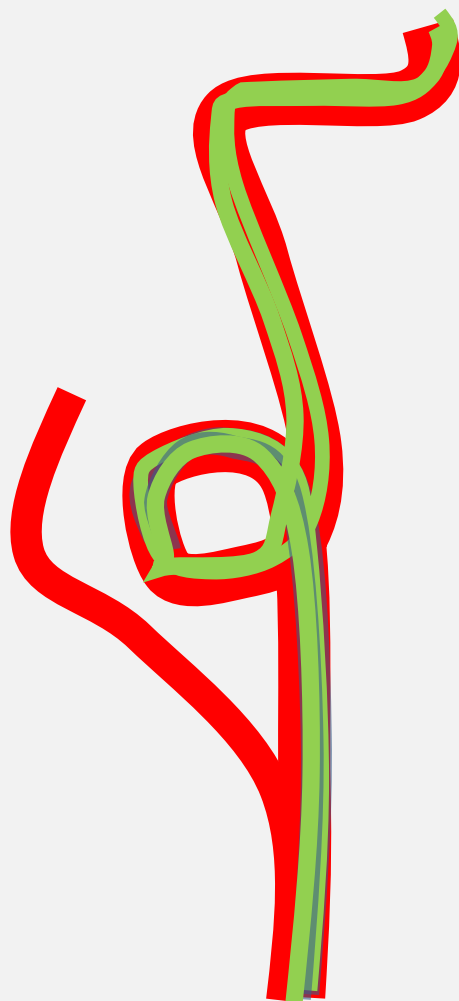
K	M
C	H



When we tried to push
aspiration catheter...

K	M
C	H

ICCA STROKE 2019



When we tried to aspirate
and pull back

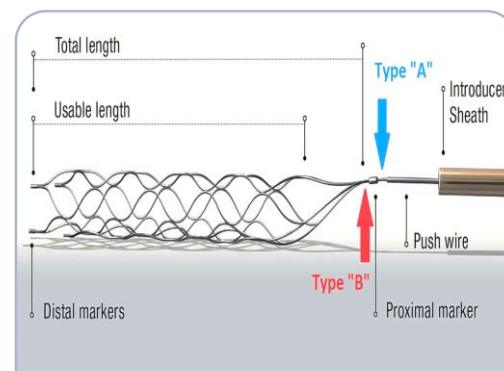
Changed devices and switched to stent retriever



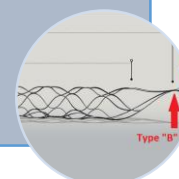
Balloon guide catheter



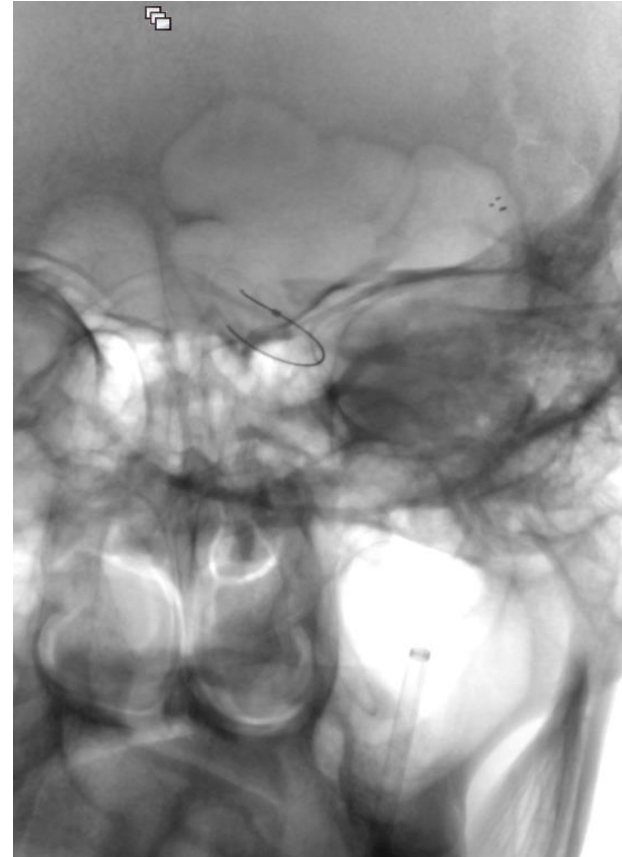
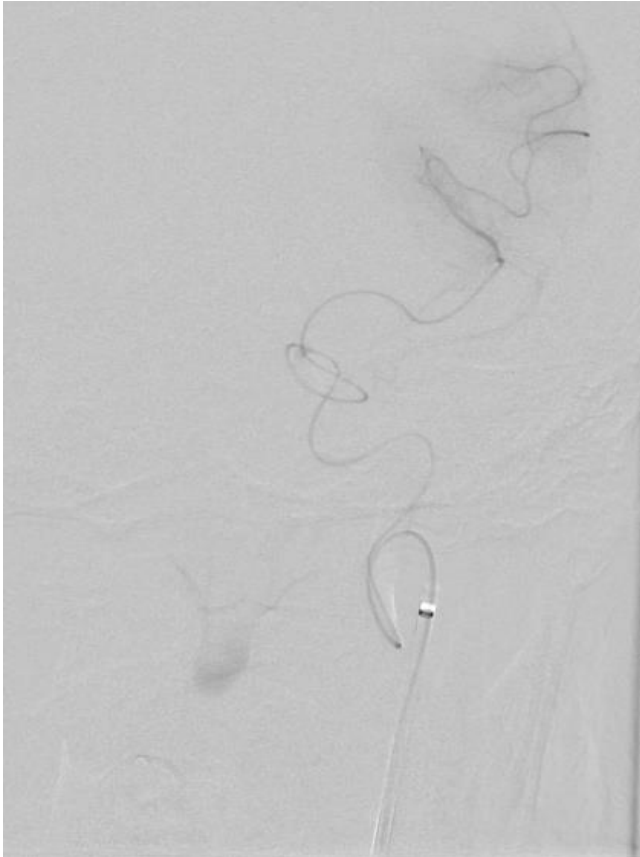
Marksman microcatheter and Avigo wire

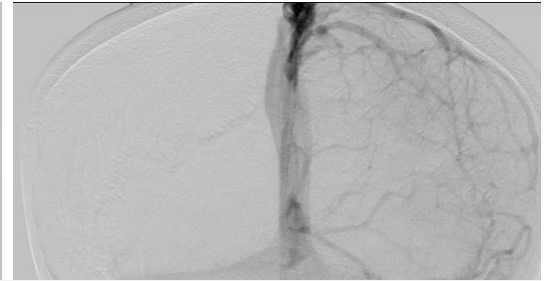
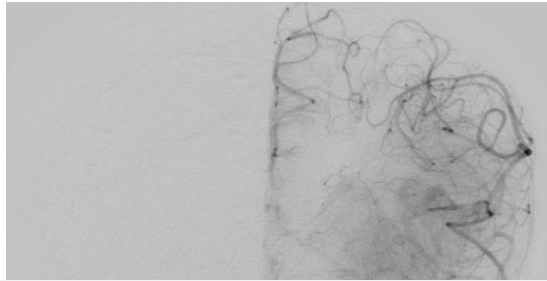
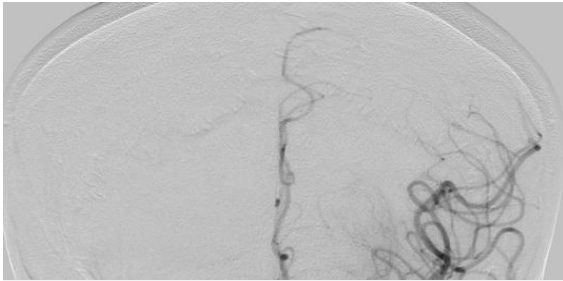


Solitaire-2 stent retriever

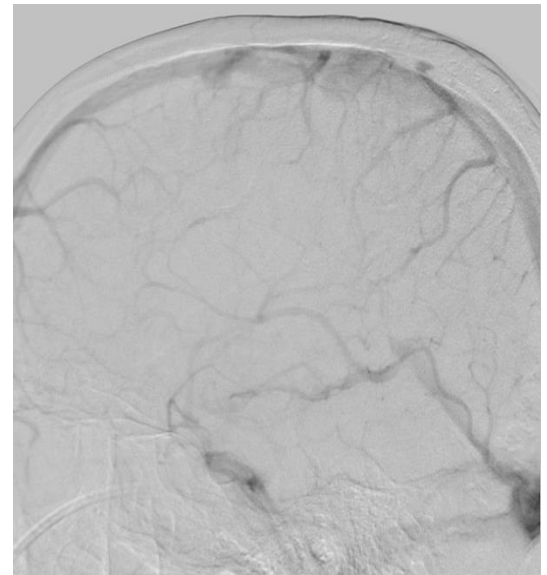
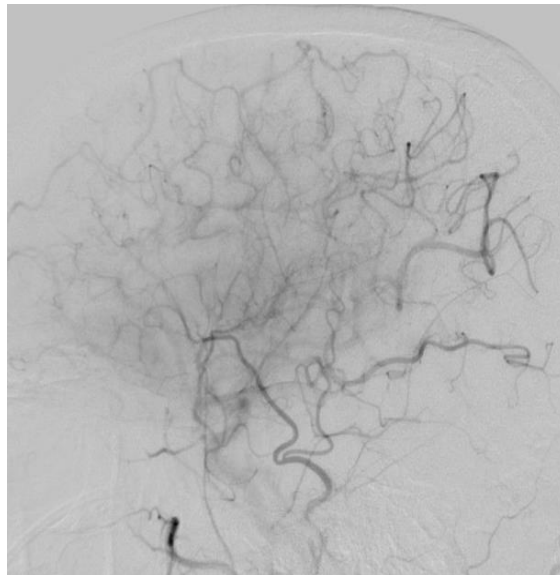


Tortuous left ICA – loops and loops





TICI FLOW - 3



K	M
C	H



Lesson 4: Avoid suction catheter when there is a tight loop

K	M
C	H



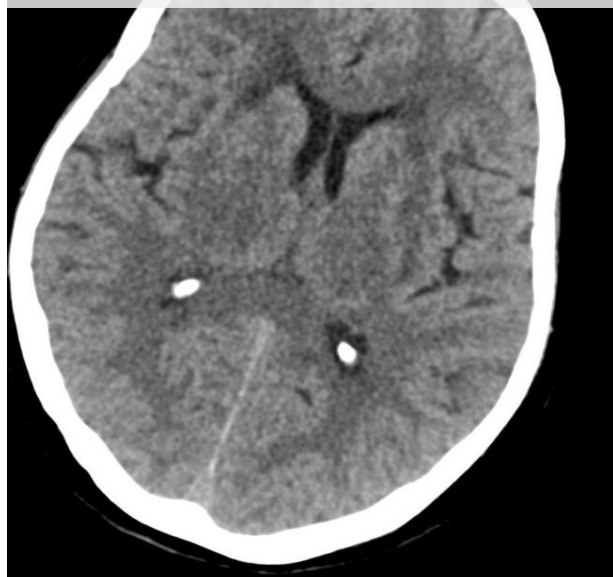
Platelet rich clot-when multiple attempts of suction aspiration and stent retrieval fails:
Resistant clot

Case - 1

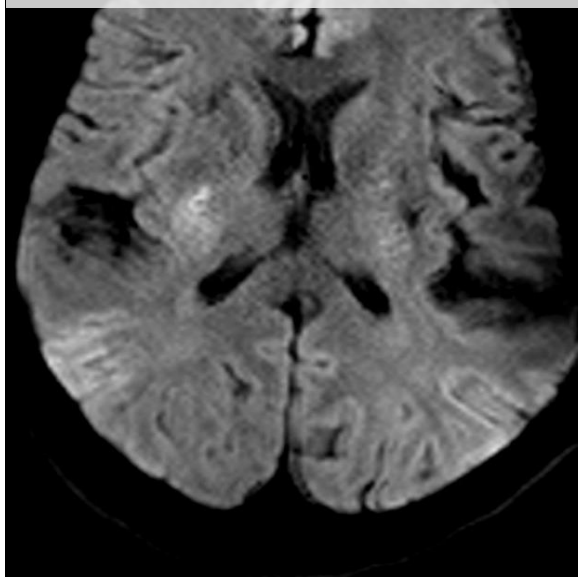
- 60 year old male
- Left side hemiplegia for the past 3 hour duration
- Power 0/5 in left upper and lower limbs
- Aphasia
- NIHSS score 17.

Imaging

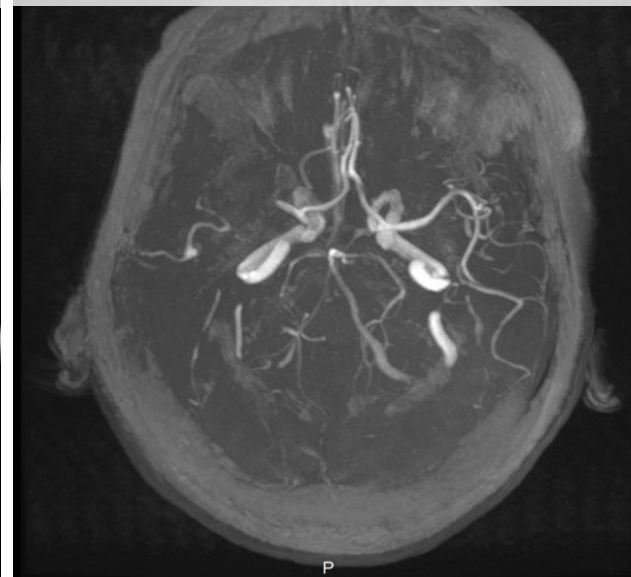
CT ASPECT-8



MR ASPECT-7



RIGHT M1 OCCLUSION





Derived/Secondary

RE-THROMBOSIS

Partial recanalization with tapering with distal M1 and sluggish forward flow.



What can be the pathophysiology ?

- CT showed no hyperdense artery- can it be the platelet rich clot?
- Underlying stenosis with acute plaque rupture?
- Microdissection and intimal damage during multiple attempts of mechanical thrombectomy- in situ platelet aggregation?

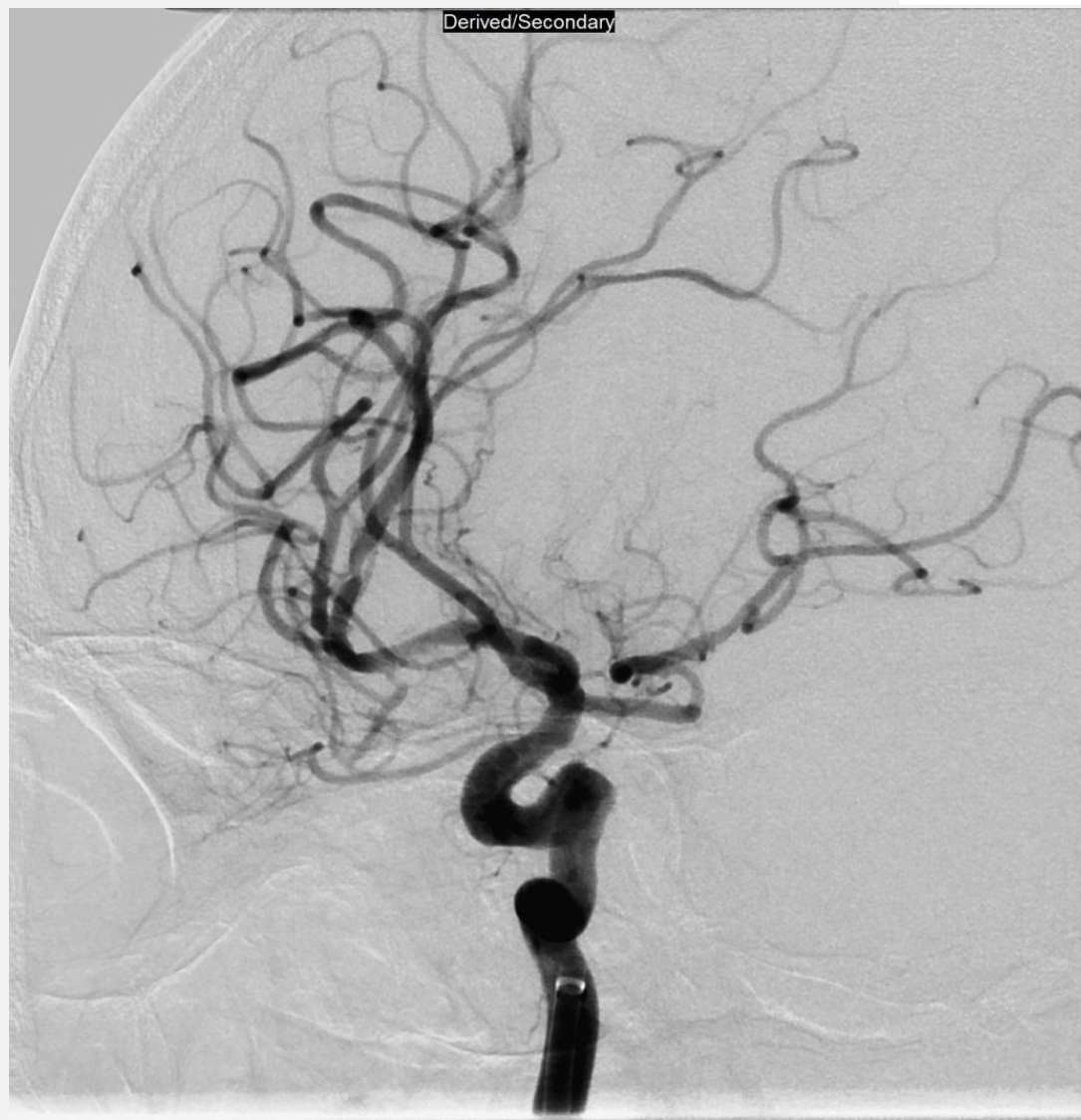
What should we do further?

- Give up
- Keep trying with same maneuver
- Deployed the stent retriever
- Balloon angioplasty +/- stenting
- GP-IIb/IIIa inhibitor

GP-IIb/IIIa Inhibitor

- Tiro-fiban 13 ml intra-arterial bolus.
- Followed by 7 ml/hour infusion.
- Check angiogram was taken at 45 min.

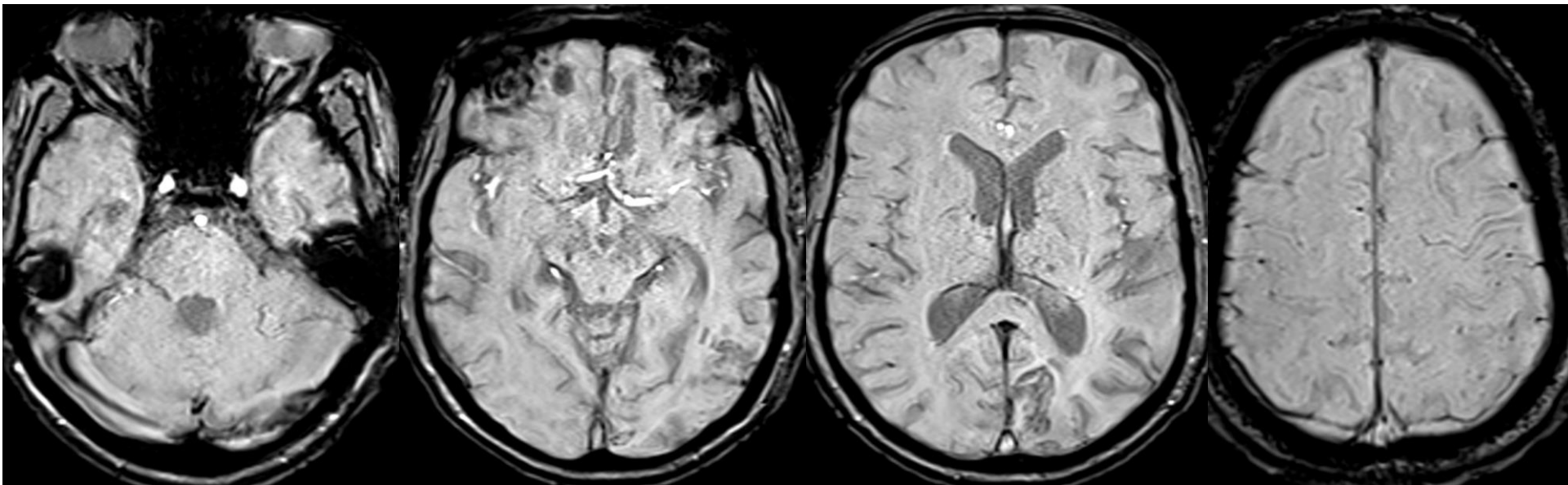
Check angiogram
at 30 min and 45
min interval



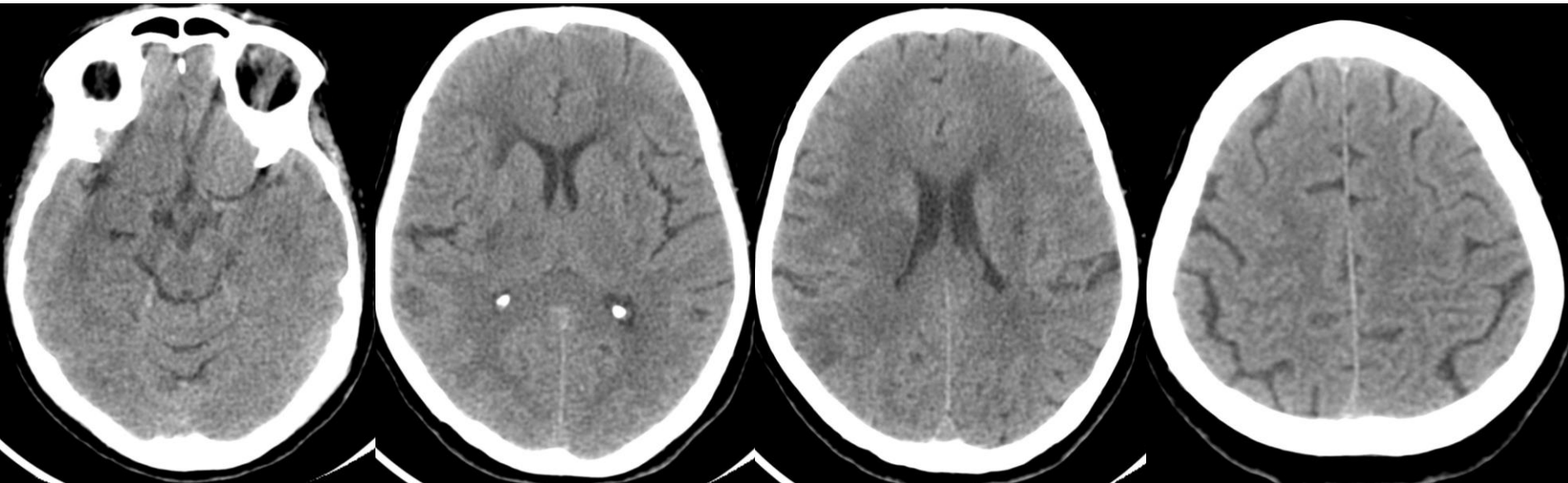
GP-IIb/IIIa Inhibitor

- Tiro-fiban 13 ml intra-arterial bolus.
- Followed by 7 ml/hour infusion.
- Check angiogram was taken at 45 min.

MRI SWI – Immediate post- procedure



CT – 24 Hours



Follow up



At 24 hours, NHISS
score dropped from
17 to 9,

Left UL/LL- 2/5



At discharge NHISS
score 4, mRS is 3

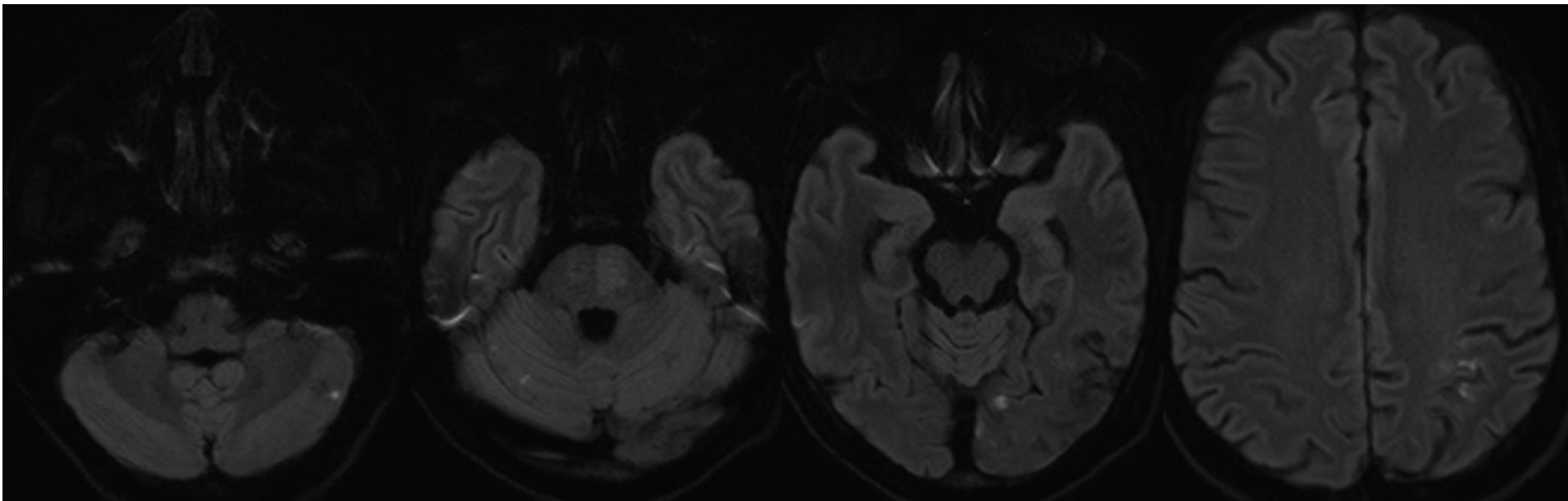


At 3 months NHISS
score 1, mRS is 0

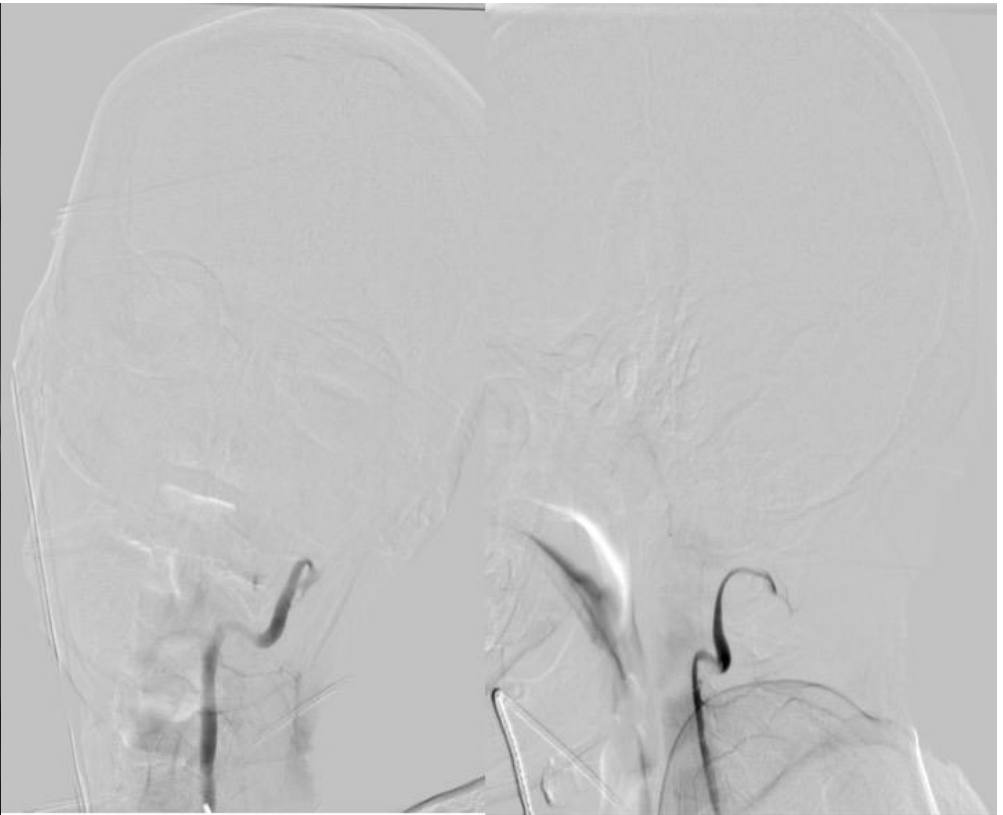
Case -2

- 45 years old male,
- Vomiting, drowsy for past 3 hours followed by loss of consciousness.
- Power in all four limbs- flexion response to pain.
- NIHSS score was 21
- IV Thrombolysis was given

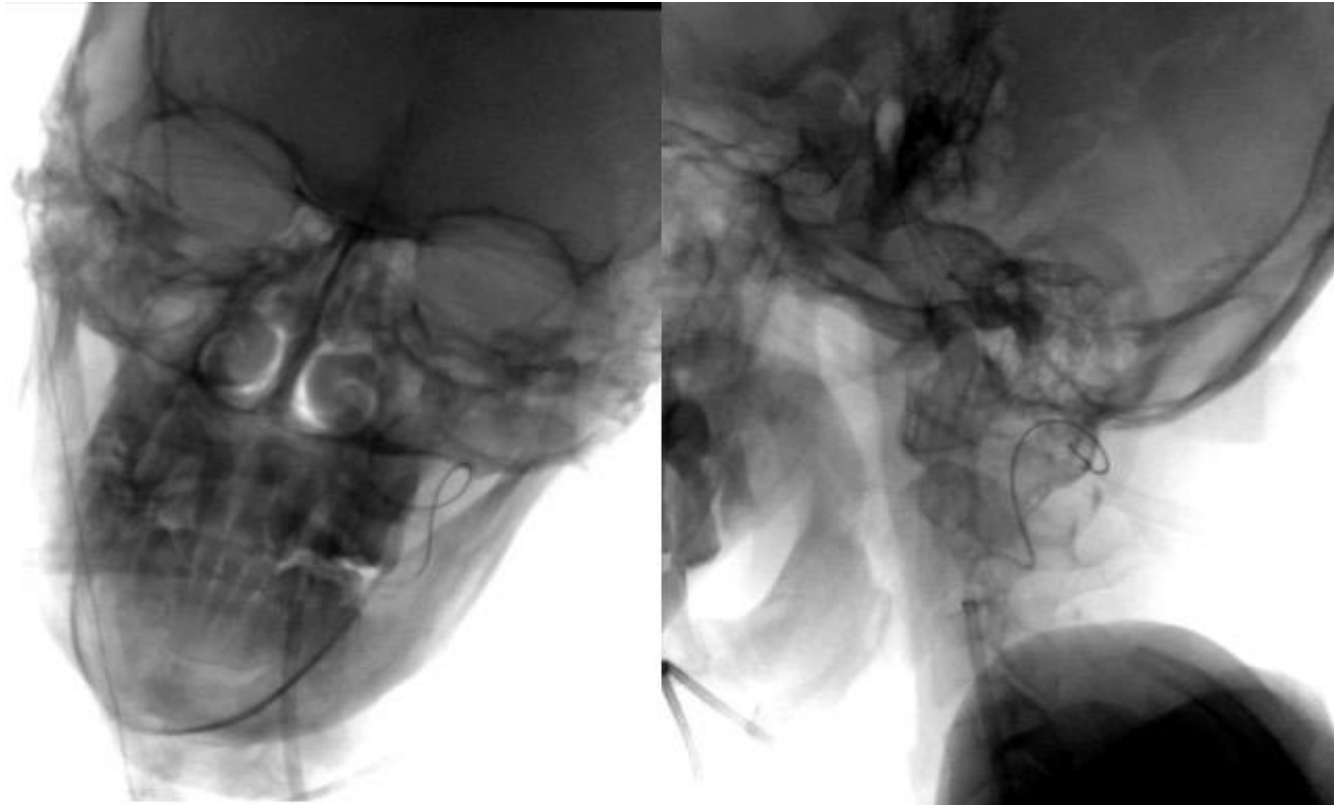
MRI



Occlusion of left V3 and beyond

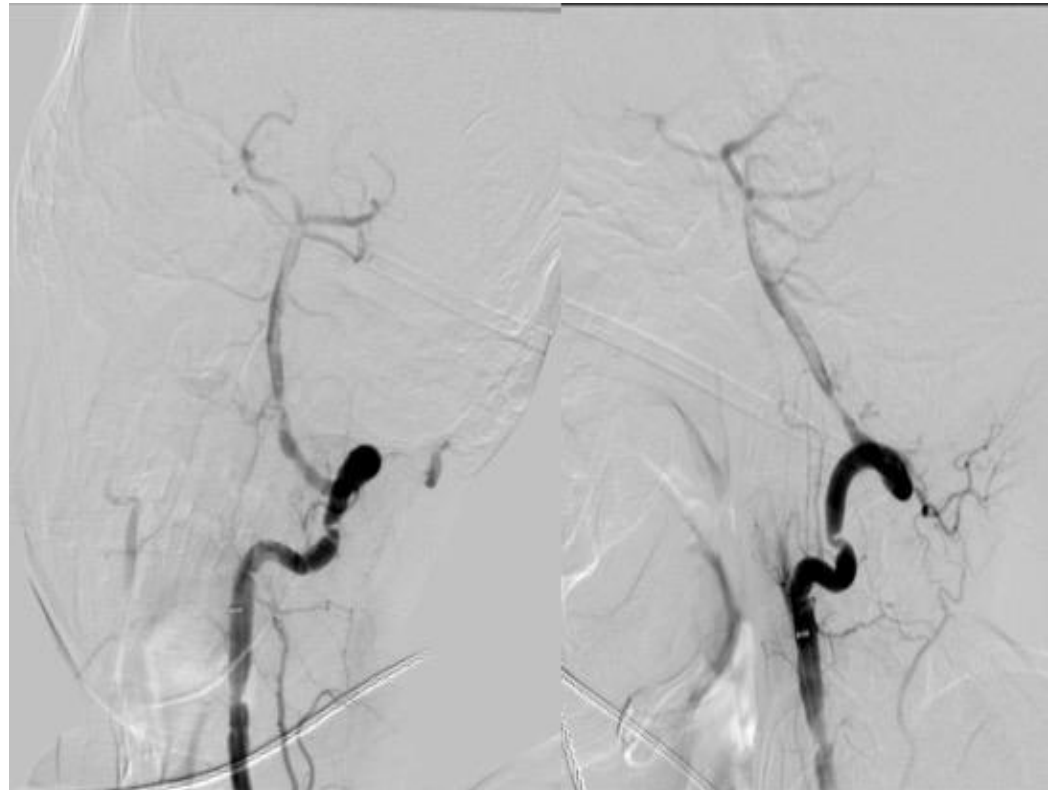


Suction aspiration with 5 Max



1st pass Suction aspiration

- Narrowing of v4 segment of left vertebral artery with partial filling defect.
- Partial recanalization of basilar artery



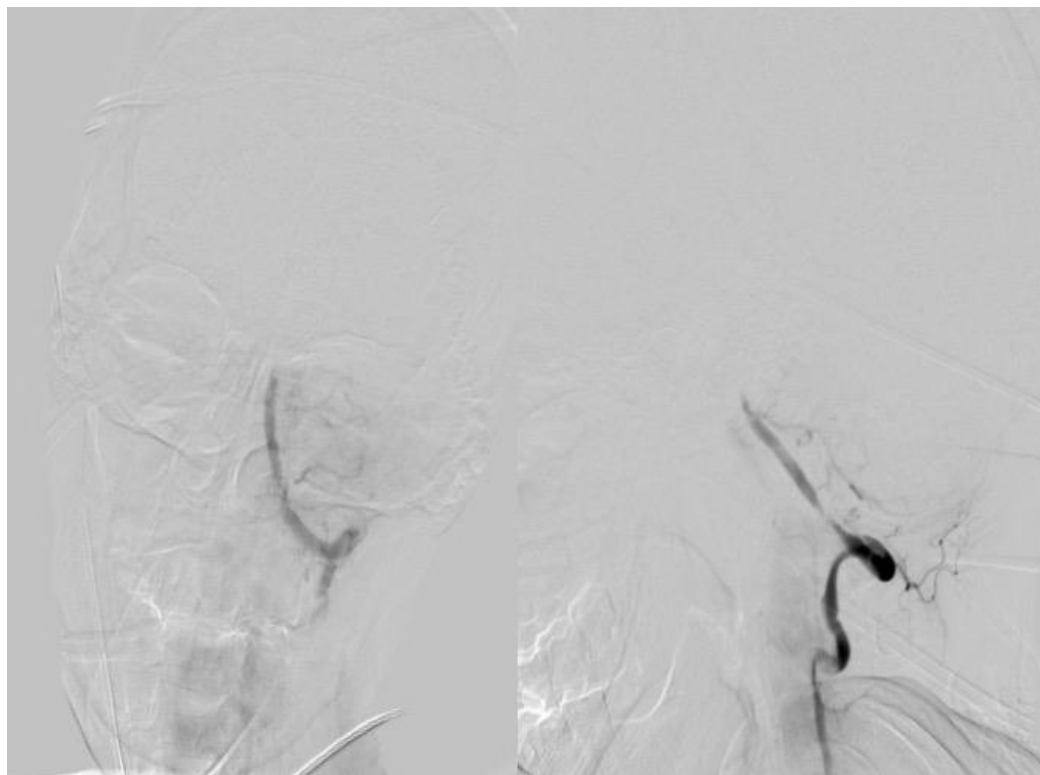
2nd pass Suction aspiration

- Persistent narrowing of V4 segment of left vertebral artery.
- Partial filling defect in basilar top.



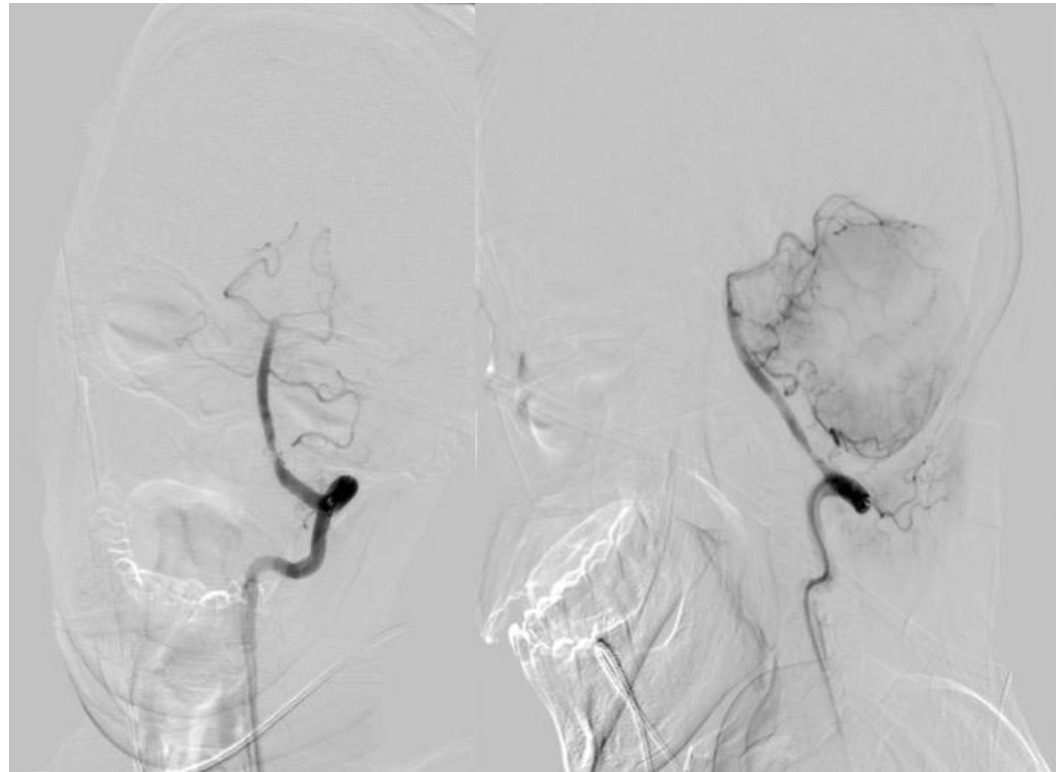
5 min following 2nd pass suction aspiration

- Rethrombosis



3rd pass Suction aspiration

- Partial filling defect in v4 segment of left vertebral artery



What's next?

- Stent-retriever
- GP-IIb/IIIa Inhibitor

Gp-IIb/IIIa Inhibitor



TIRO-FIBAN 13 ML
INTRA-ARTERIAL BOLUS.



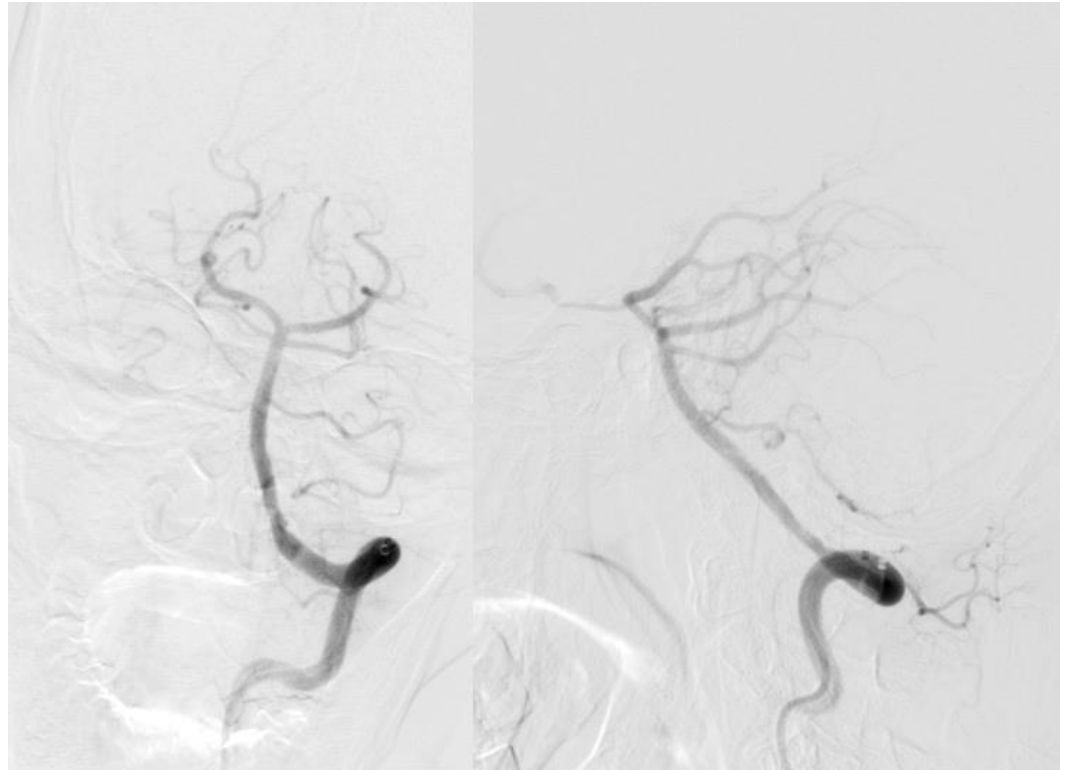
FOLLOWED BY 7
ML/HOUR INFUSION.



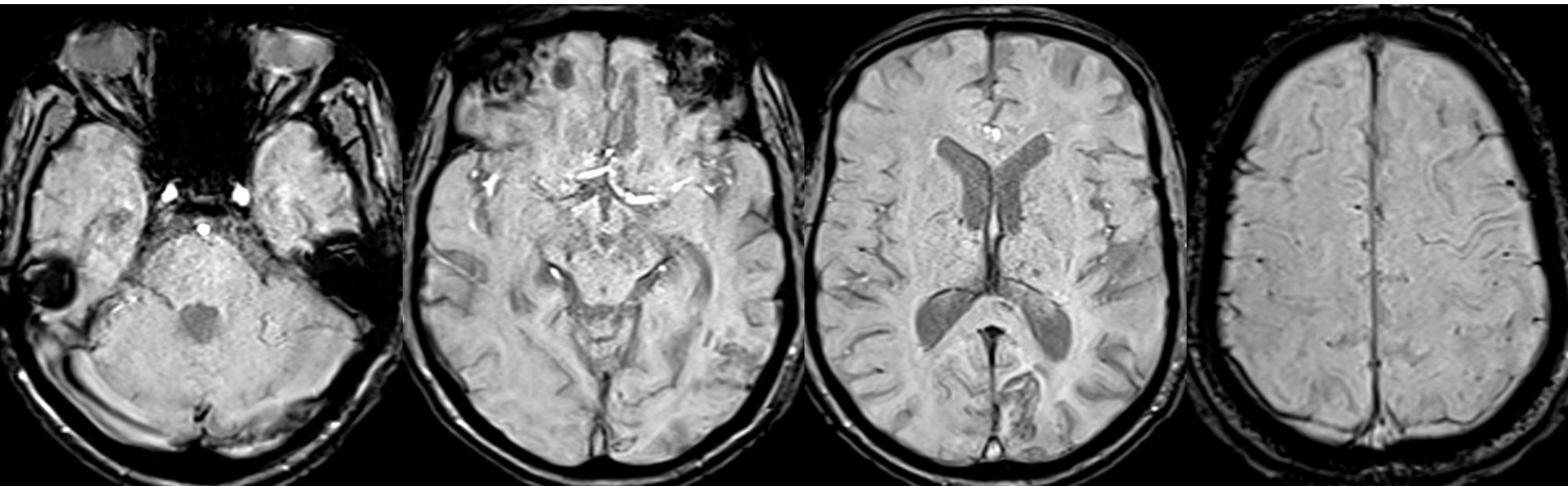
CHECK ANGIOGRAM WAS
TAKEN AT 45 MIN.

Check angiogram

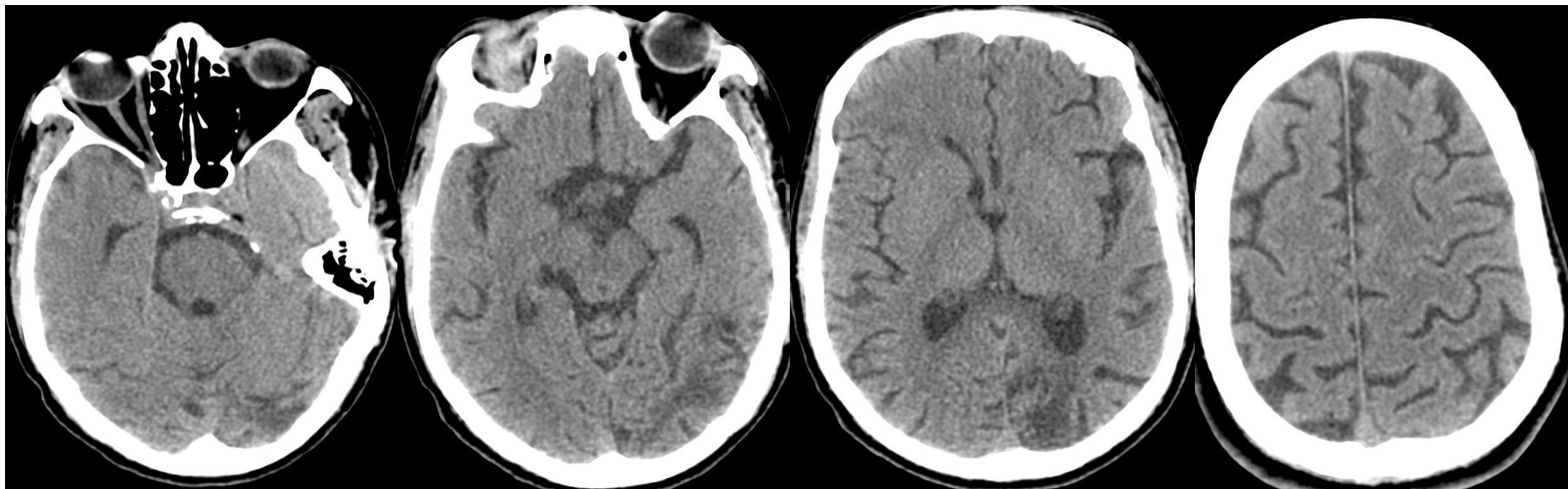
- TICI flow - 3



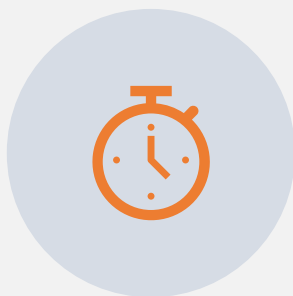
SWI MRI – Immediate post-procedure



CT – 24 hours



Follow up



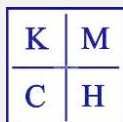
NIHSS score at 24
hour - 9, mRS was 4.



NIHSS score at
discharge - 1, mRS
was 3.



3 months mRS was 1.



Original Paper

Erythrocyte-Rich Thrombus Is Associated with Reduced Number of Maneuvers and Procedure Time in Patients with Acute Ischemic Stroke Undergoing Mechanical Thrombectomy

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Keywords

Acute ischemic stroke · Computed tomography · Endovascular revascularization · Pathology · Thrombus formation

Abstract

Background: Only few studies have investigated the relationship between the histopathology of retrieved thrombi and clinical outcomes. This study aimed to evaluate thrombus composition and its association with clinical, laboratory, and neurointerventional findings in patients treated by mechanical thrombectomy due to acute large vessel occlusion. **Methods:** At our institution, 79 patients were treated by mechanical thrombectomy using a stent retriever and/or aspiration catheter between August 2015 and August 2016. The retrieved thrombi were quantitatively analyzed to quantify red blood cells, white blood cells, and fibrin by area. We divided the patients into two groups – a fibrin-rich group and an erythrocyte-rich group – based on the predominant composition in the thrombus. The groups were compared for imaging, clinical, and neurointerventional data. **Results:** The retrieved thrombi from 43 patients with acute stroke from internal carotid artery, middle cerebral artery, or basilar artery occlusion were histologically analyzed. Erythrocyte-rich thrombi were present in 18 cases, while fibrin-rich thrombi were present in 25 cases. A cardioembolic etiology was significantly more

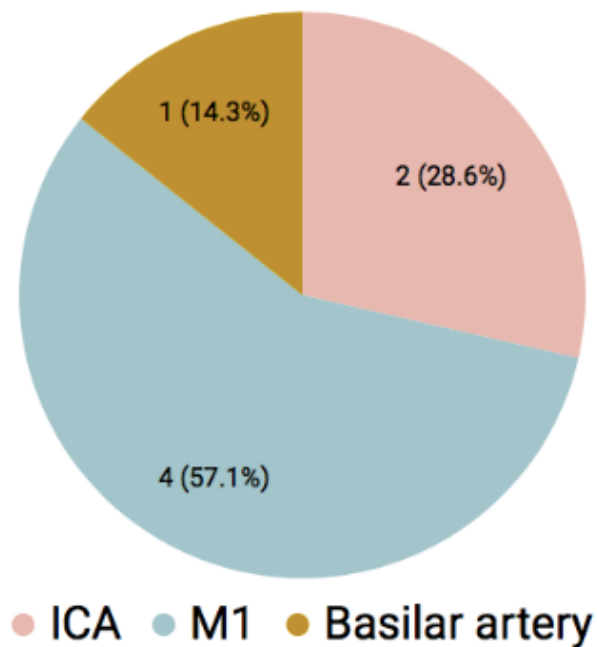
Erythrocyte-Rich Thrombus Is Associated with Reduced Number of Maneuvers and Procedure Time in Patients with Acute Ischemic Stroke Undergoing Mechanical Thrombectomy.

Maekawa K¹, Shibata M¹, Nakajima H², Mizutani A³, Kitano Y², Seguchi M¹, Yamasaki M³, Kobayashi K¹, Sano T², Mori G², Yabana T⁴, Naito F².

2018 guidelines for the early management of patients with acute ischemic stroke antiplatelet treatment

Antiplatelet treatment	COR	LOE	New, revised or unchanged
1. The efficacy of iv tiro-fiban and eptifibatide is not well established. Further clinical trials are needed.	II-b	B-R	Recommendation revised from 2013 AIS guidelines.

Statistics and Outcome



Outcomes:

- Angiographic: 6 patients (86%) had good outcome (TICI 3)
- Symptomatic ICH was observed in 1 patients (14.2%)

Clinical:

- Immediate 24 hour: NIHSS shift of ≥ 5 in 5 patients (71.4%)
- Long term: mRS of 0 or 1 at 90 days in 4 patients (57%)

Conclusion

- GP-IIb/IIIa works when there is platelet rich clot and multiple attempts of suction aspiration/stent retriever fails.
- Select the patient meticulously.

K	M
C	H



Lesson 5: Platelet rich clot is difficult to retrieve ... GP IIb/IIIa inhibitor may do the trick

K	M
C	H

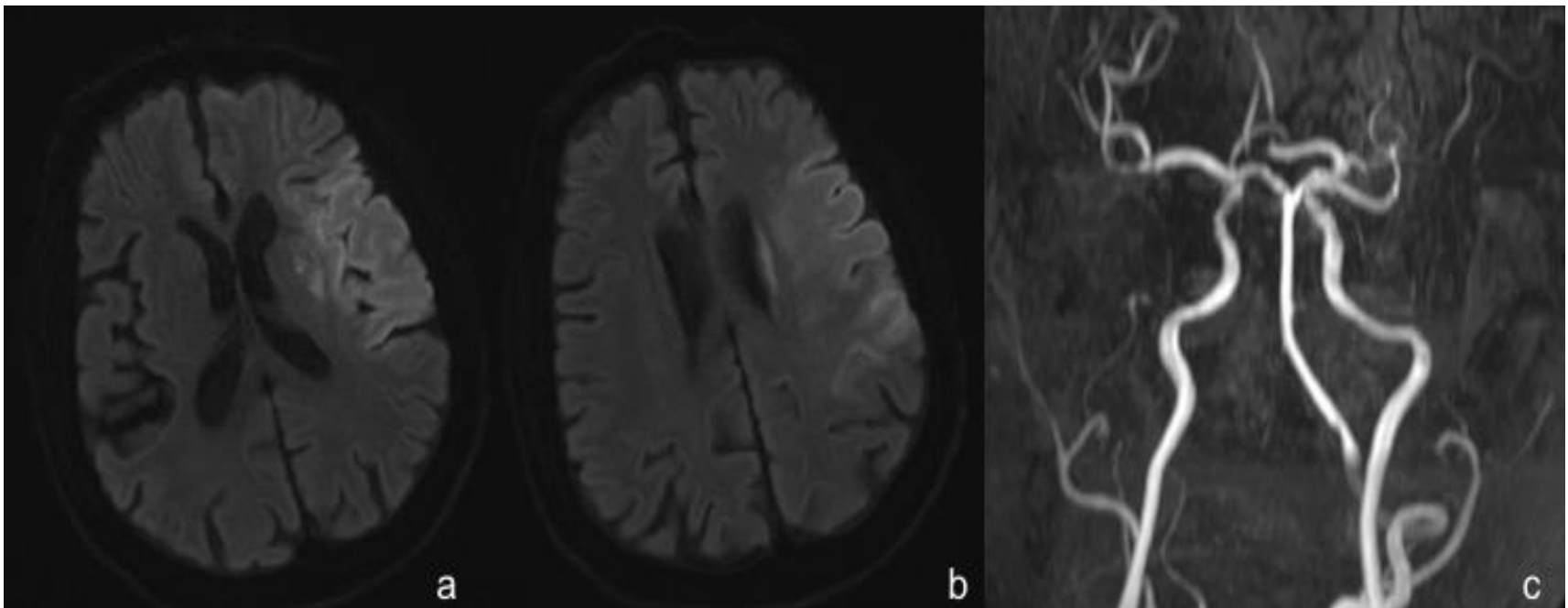


Can we prognosticate 90 days outcome with neuroimaging ??

Case - 1

- 78 years old male
- Right hemiplegia and aphasia for 3 hours
- DWI ASPECT score 5
- Left M1 occlusion

MRI



Endovascular treatment – Mechanical thrombectomy Solendra technique – TICl flow 3

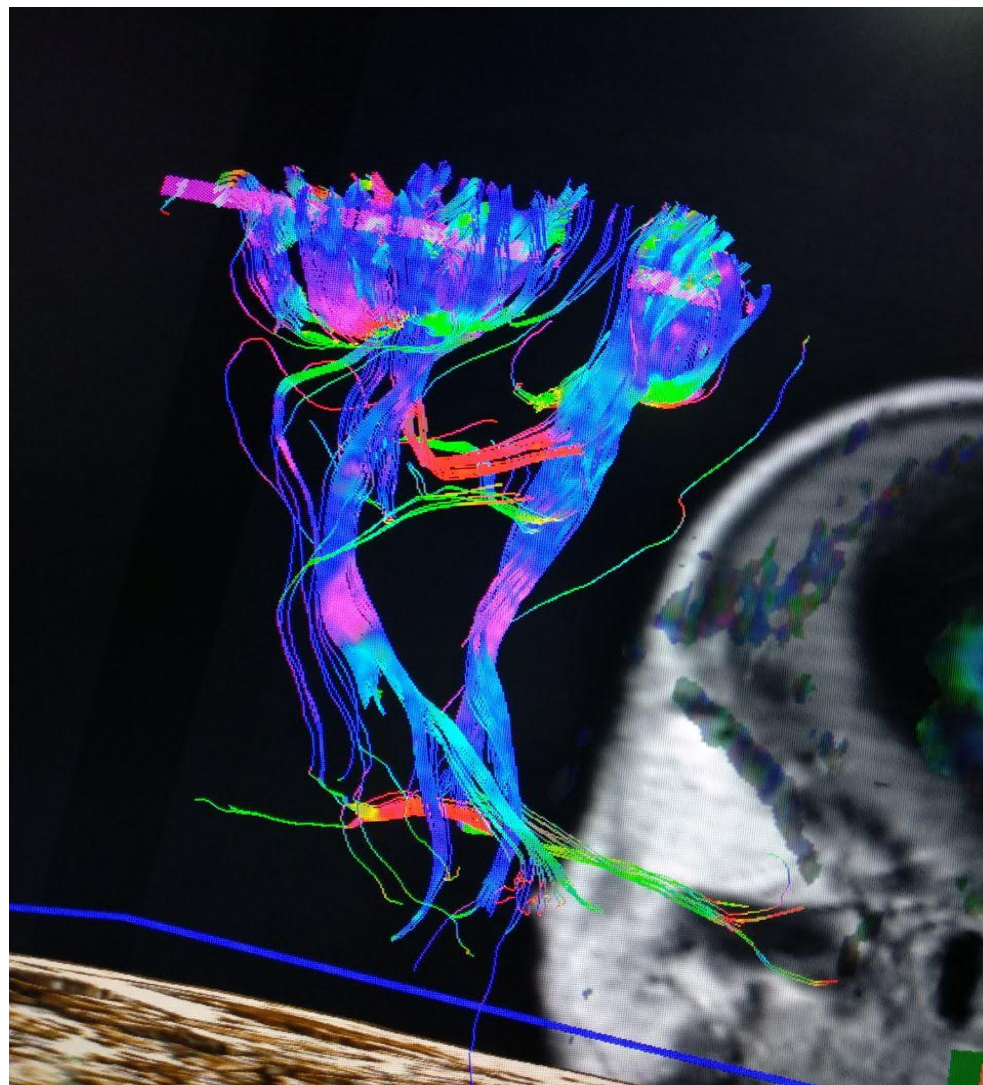


Post-procedure

- Patient's power was 2/5 in UL/LL

DTI

Separation of
corticospinal tract but no
disruption



Intensive dedicated team for stroke physiotherapy and occupational therapy

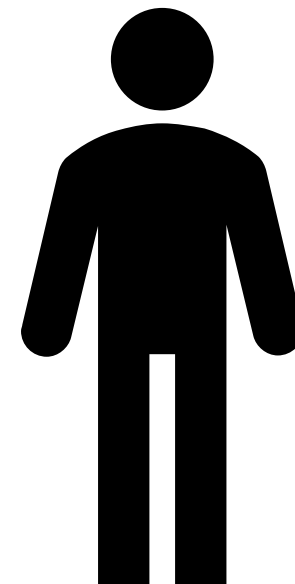


K	M
C	H



Patient recovery at 3 months

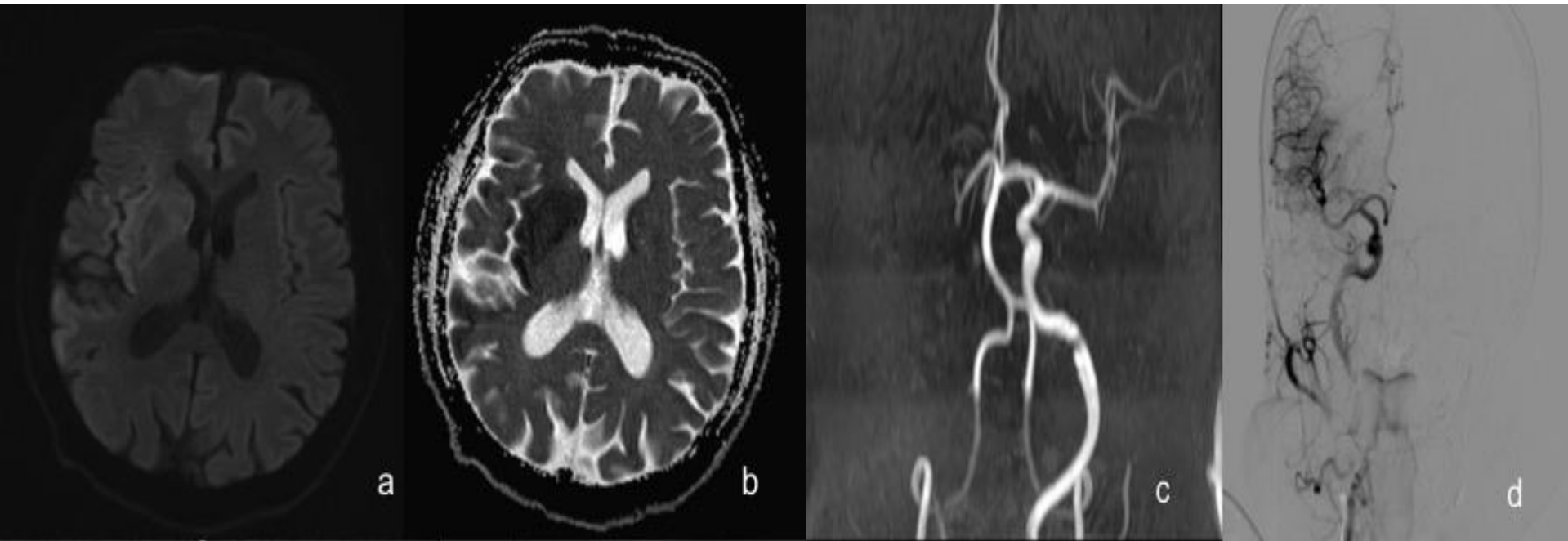
- Patient's power was 5/5 in UL/LL.
- mRS is 1.



Case - 2

- 57 years old male
- Previous CABG, on dual antiplatelets.
- Left hemiplegia and dysarthria for 4 hours
- ASPECT 6 on DWI
- Right ICA occlusion on MRA
- Mechanical thrombectomy done with Penumbra 5 max; TICI 3 flow achieved.

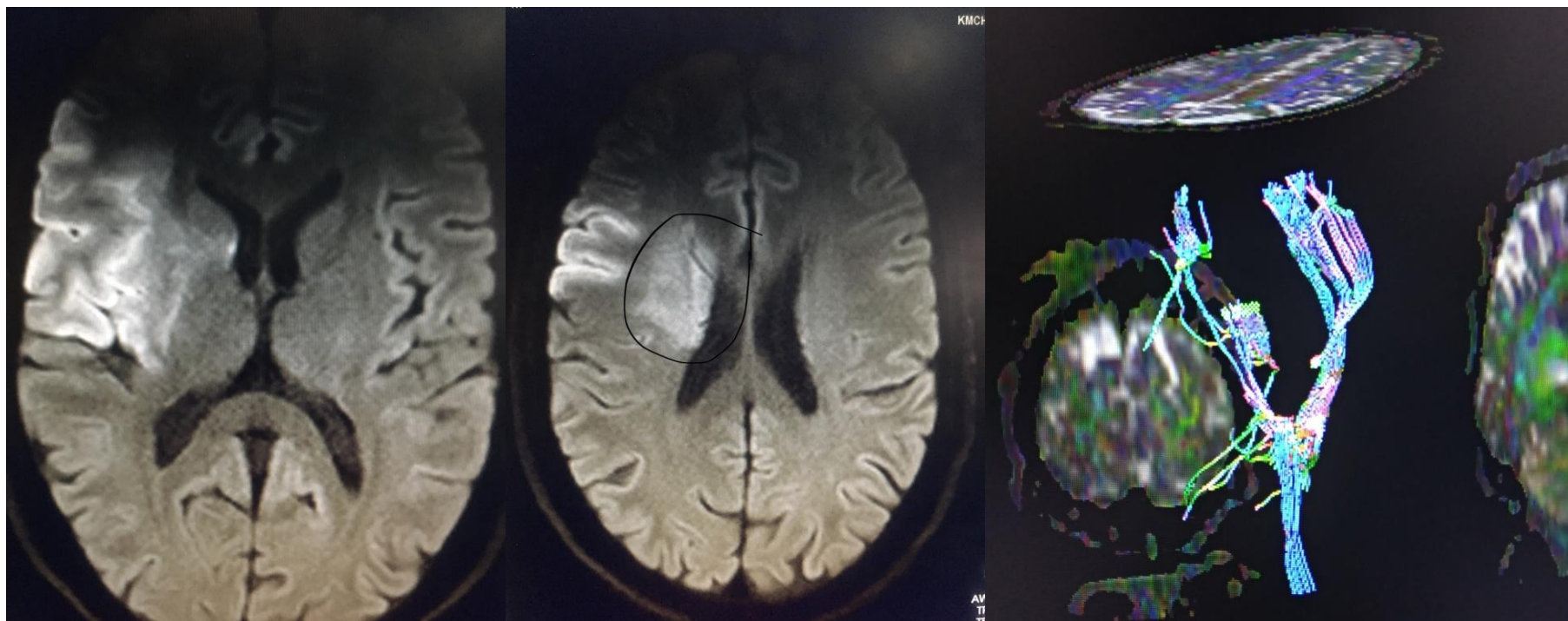
MR Aspect – 6, major vessel occlusion, TICI - 3



Post-procedure

- Patient's power was 0/5 in left UL/LL

Post-procedure MRI, DTI





Patient recovery at 3 months

- Patient's power was 2/5 in UL/LL.
- mRS is 4.



K	M
C	H



Lesson 6: DTI can predict long term outcome in an immediate post-procedure period.



TEAM

T

TOGETHER

E

EVERYONE

A

ACHIEVES

M

MORE