

Carotid Artery Dissection; an uncommon presentation

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Introduction:

Carotid Artery Dissections (CAD) are a common cause for strokes in younger patients¹. Sports induced CAD especially due to running has been reported as a common cause.² We present an interesting cause of recurrent carotid dissection in different arteries.

Case report:

49 year old man presented 3 years ago with a sudden onset headache following the completion of a 5km Parkrun. He noted that his right pupil was smaller than the left. Magnetic Resonance Angiogram (MRA) revealed a right carotid artery dissection. Recently, he re-presented after completing the same Parkrun with a similar headache and noticed that his left pupil was now smaller than his right. Repeat MRA confirmed a dissection of the left carotid artery and a complete resolution of his previous dissection.

Conclusion:

This has resulted in increased patient anxiety regarding physical exertion. The lack of evidence to stratify ongoing risks and support the management of recurrent carotid dissections causes a clinical dilemma. This case highlights the need for more research into the cause of CAD in order to provide patients with better advice to prevent recurrent events.

Figure 1 MRA 2015

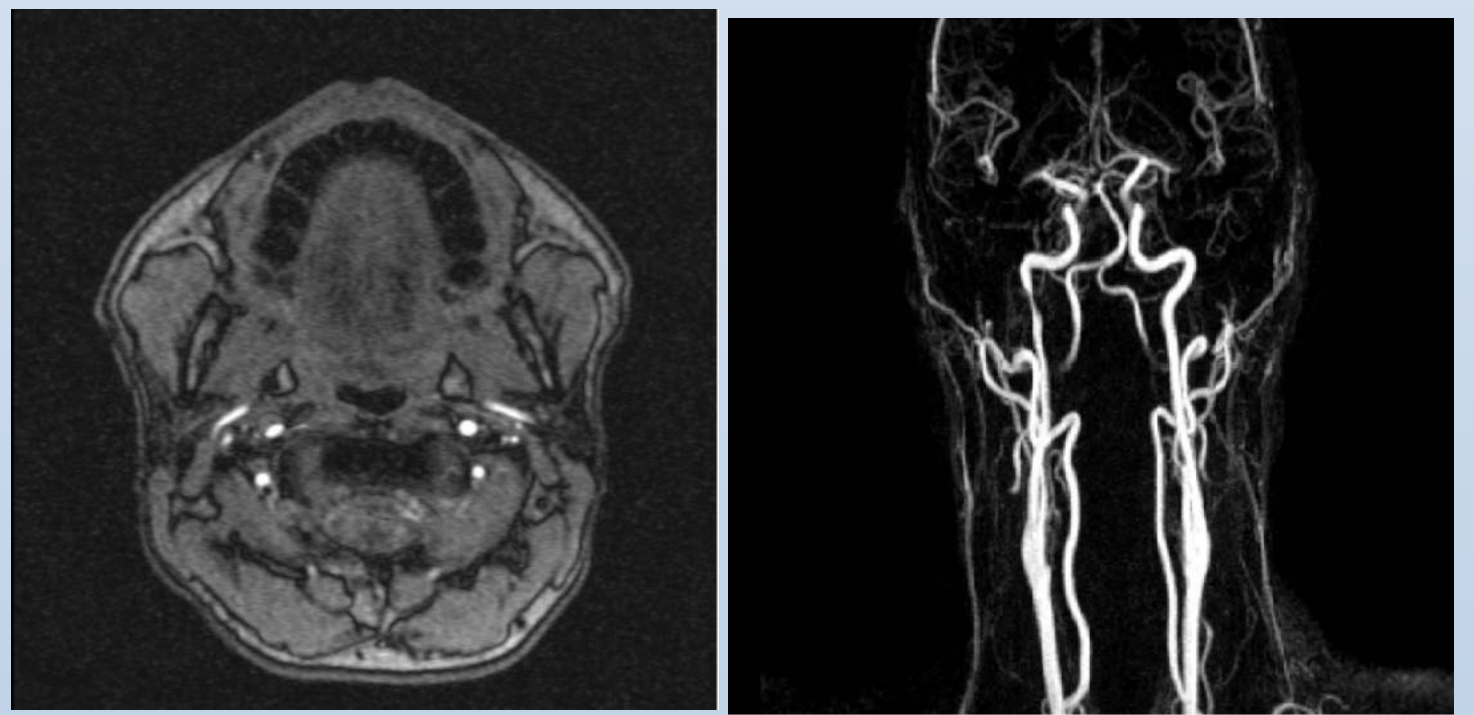


Figure 2 MRA 2018

