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Magnetic Resonance Imaging Finding of Presumed Cerebellar Cerebrovascular Accident in a Dog

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Introduction: Cerebrovascular disease is defined as any abnormality of the brain resulting from a pathologic process affecting its blood supply. The aim of this report is to describe the MRI finding of a dog with presumed cerebrovascular accident affecting the cerebellum.

Materials and methods: A 7-years-old, male cocker spaniel dog was evaluated for acute tremor in the Veterinary Medical Center, Chungbuk National University. At referral, the dog showed remarkable neurologic signs including right hemiparesis, right head tilt and loss of the balance. On physical examination, a tendency to be horizontal and vertical nystagmus was shown with decreased pupillary light reflex of the right eye. Survey radiograph and cerebrospinal fluid analysis were normal. Computed tomography of the brain indicated a mildly bilateral asymmetric ventriculomegaly, which was more on the left side. The sharply demarcated shaped focal lesion which were hypointense on T1-weighted image and hyperintense on T2-weighted image at the cerebellum level was noted in magnetic resonance image.

Results: On the basis of neurological sign and MR findings, the dog was diagnosed tentatively cerebrovascular accident.

Clinical relevance: MRI is superior to computed tomography inthe detection of cerebrovascular accident because MRI has become more sensitivity and specificity. Especially, MRI is able to detect the diagnosis of acute stroke and mimic stroke.

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