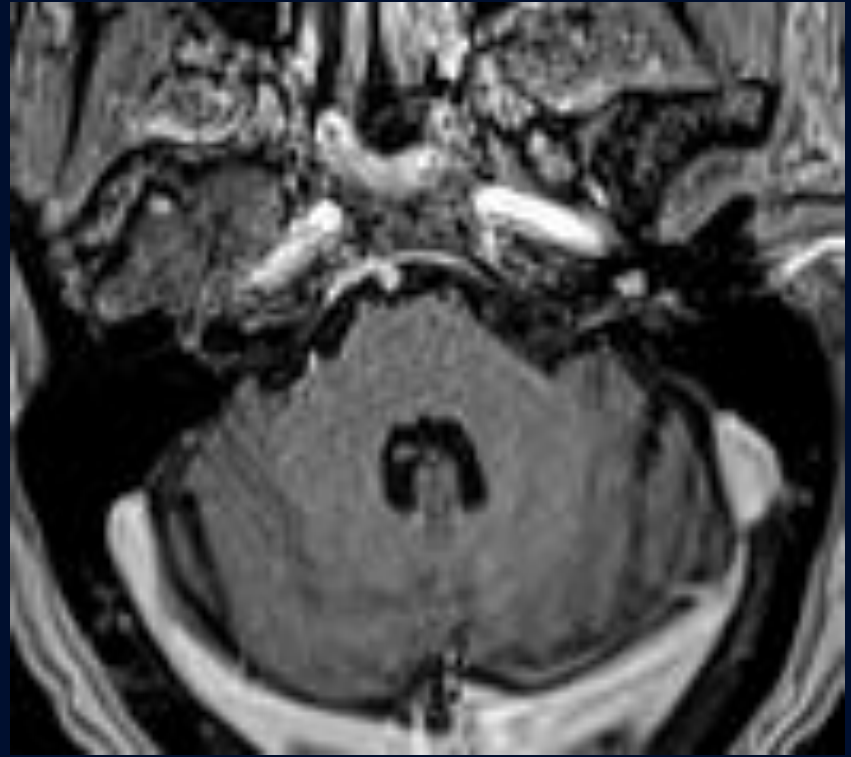
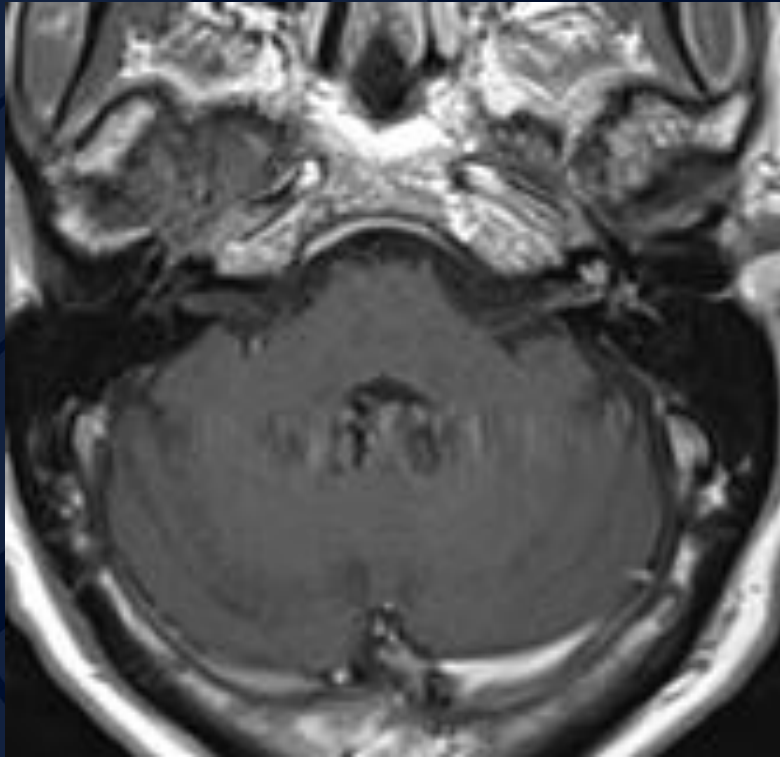
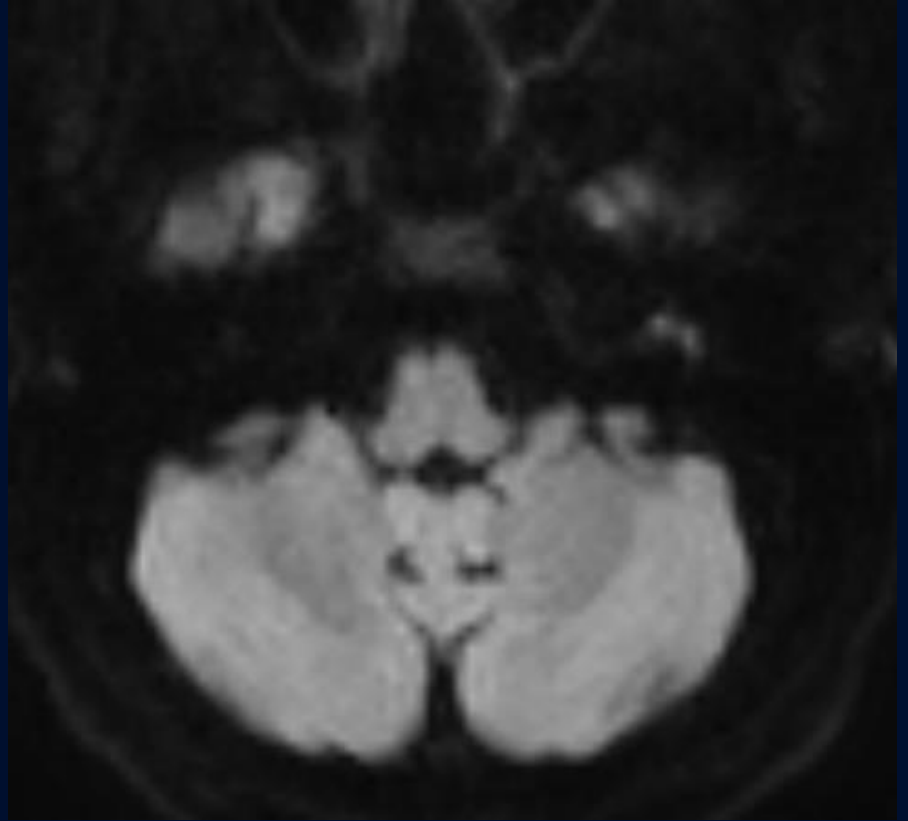


Complete left-sided sensorineural hearing loss.

John A. Cieslak III, MD, PhD

Leo Wolansky, MD





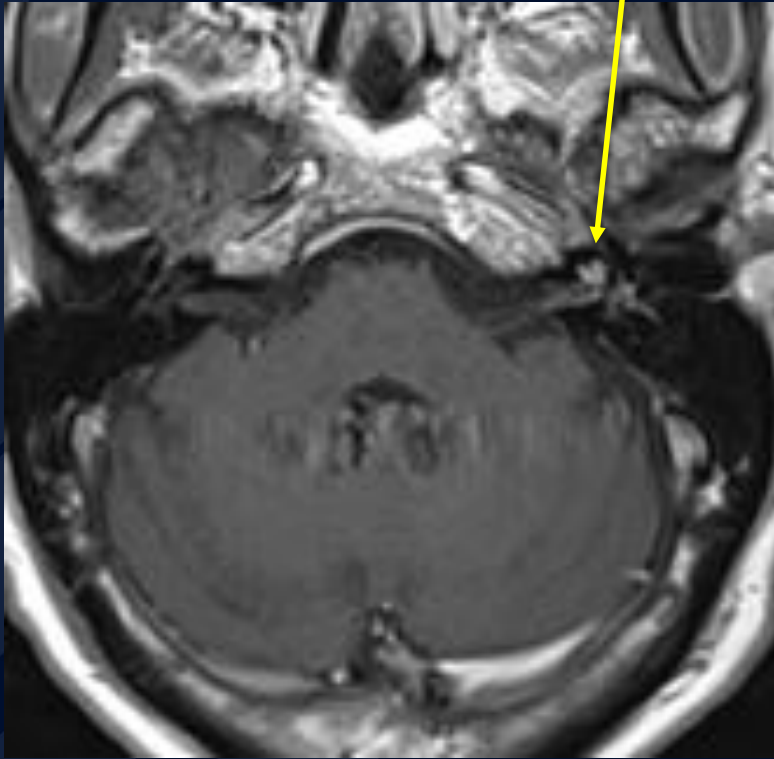


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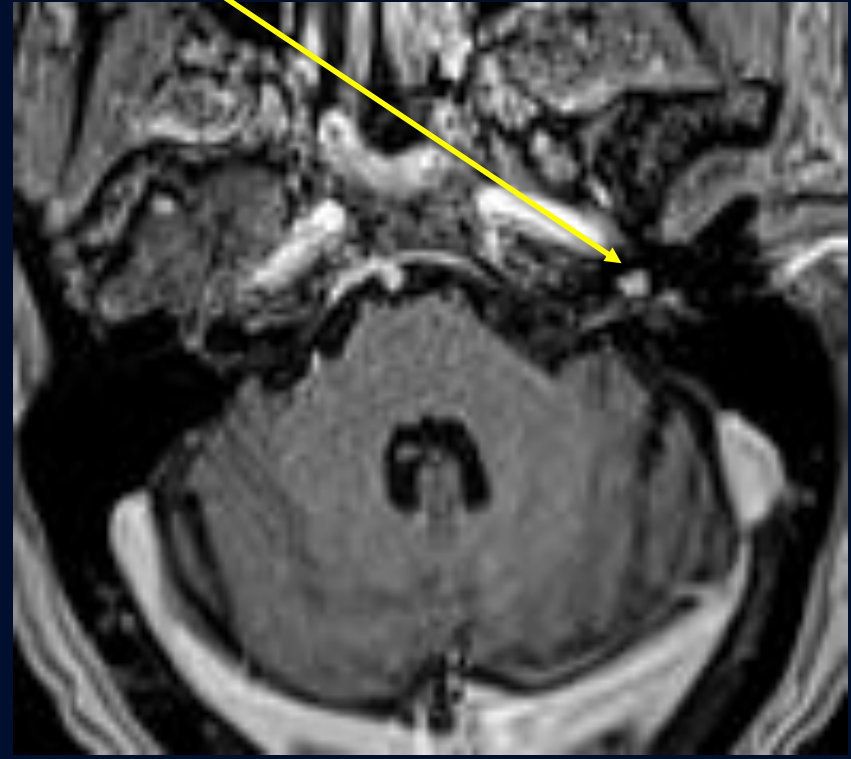
A large, stylized oak leaf graphic in a dark blue color, positioned on the left side of the slide. The leaf has a prominent central vein and several smaller veins branching off it. The leaf's edge is serrated.

Acute Labyrinthitis

Enhancement of the
labyrinth on the left



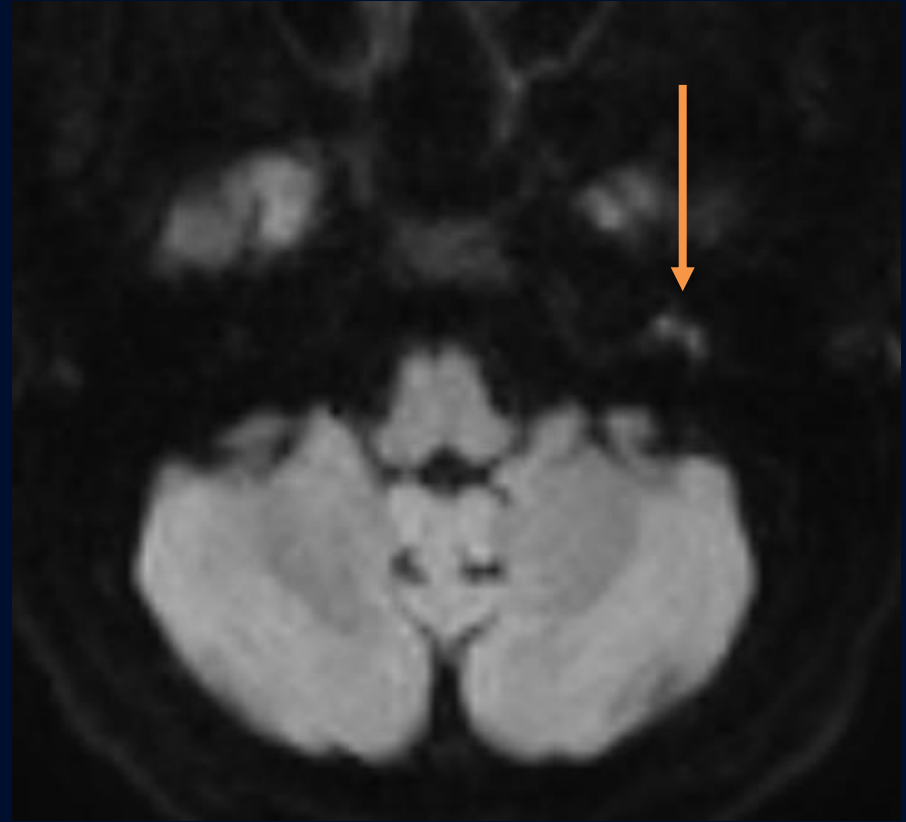
T1-weighted MRI
image, with contrast,
axial (2D-FT)



T1-weighted MRI
image, with contrast,
axial (3D-FT)



T2-weighted MRI image, axial
Hypointensity of the labyrinth on affected
side (yellow arrow)



Diffusion-weighted MRI image, axial
Restricted diffusion in the affected labyrinth
(orange arrow)

Labyrinthitis

- Inflammation of the membranous labyrinth in the inner ear.
- Patients present with vertigo, hearing loss, fever, tinnitus, otorrhea, otalgia.
- Ddx: Vertebrobasilar insufficiency, cerebellar infarct, drug-induced vertigo or hearing loss, presyncope.

Labyrinthitis

- Etiologies:
 - Tympanogenic
 - Complication of acute mastoiditis with spread of infection from the middle ear to inner ear via the round or oval window.
 - Typically unilateral.
 - Traumatic
 - Post- temporal bone fracture with perilymphatic fistula formation.
 - Meningogenic
 - Most frequently bacterial, typically causing bilateral labyrinthitis, and seen most frequently in children. Most common cause of acquired deafness.
 - Hematogenic
 - Most frequently viral, after respiratory tract infections. Controversial if hematogenous spread is real or direct infection from the middle ear.

Labyrinthitis

- MRI Findings:
 - Enhancement of the labyrinth on post-contrast T1-weighted images.
 - T2 hypointensity of the affected side in comparison to the normal side.
 - Restricted diffusion.

References:

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2. Boston ME, Strasnick B. Labyrinthitis Workup. eMedicine website. Last updated: January 23, 2017. Accessed April 10, 2018.
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4. Mark AS, Seltzer S, Harnsberger HR. Sensorineural hearing loss: more than meets the eye?. *American Journal of Neuroradiology*. 1993; 14(1): 37-45.
5. Davidson HC. Imaging evaluation of sensorineural hearing loss. *Seminars Ultrasound CT MR*. 2001; 22(3): 229-249.