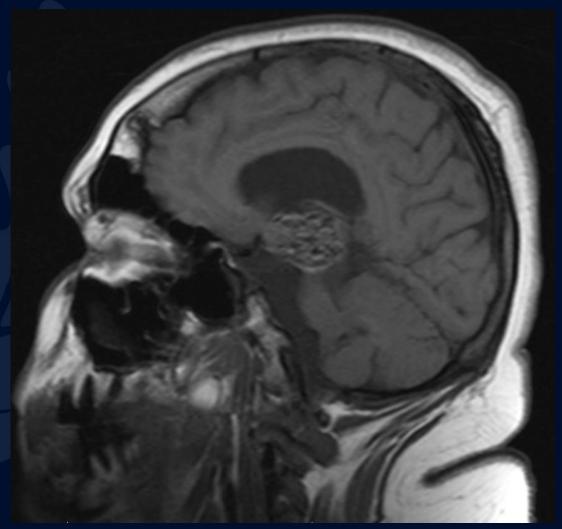
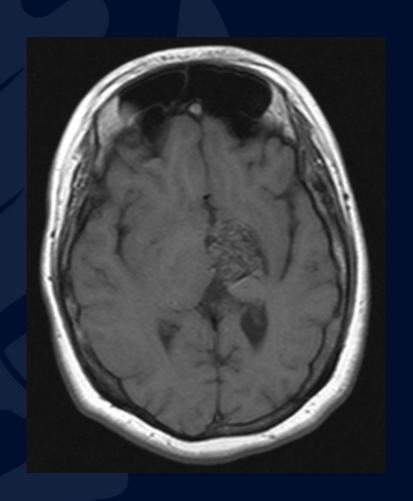
27 y/o female presenting with recent hemorrhage in the left thalamus and new onset night blindness

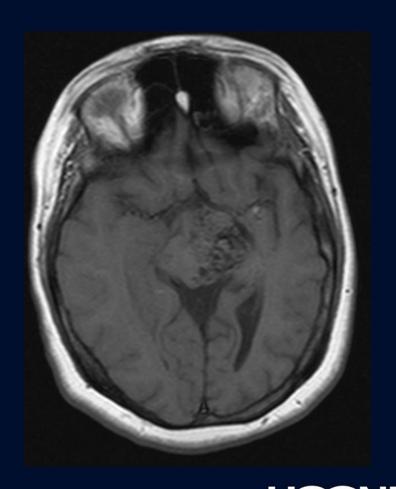
Maxime Braun, MS4
University of Connecticut
School of Medicine



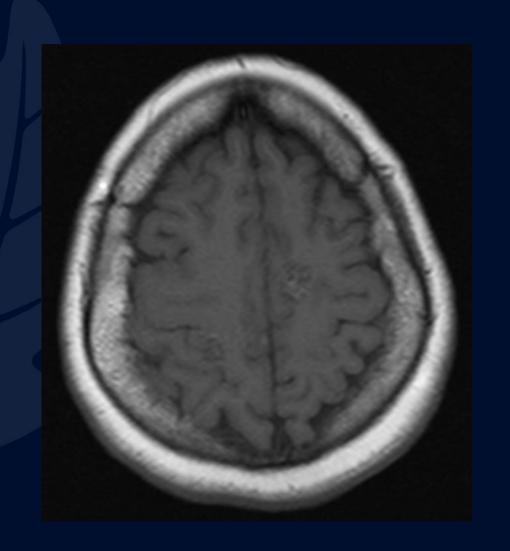




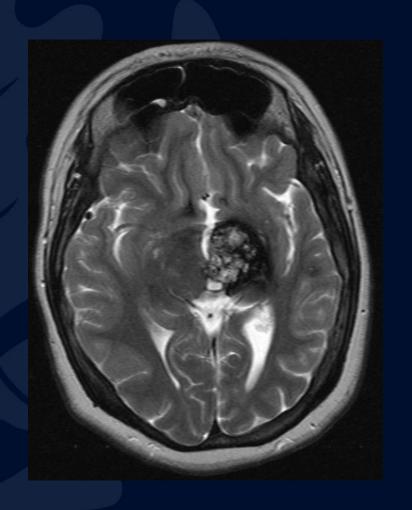


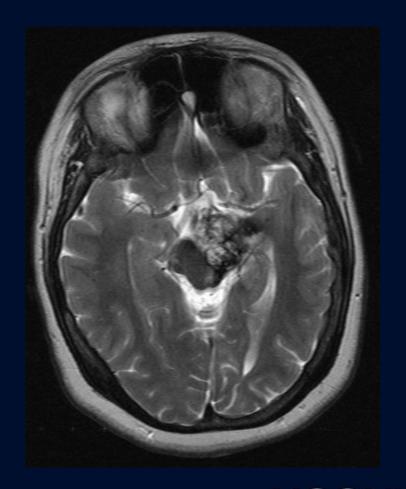




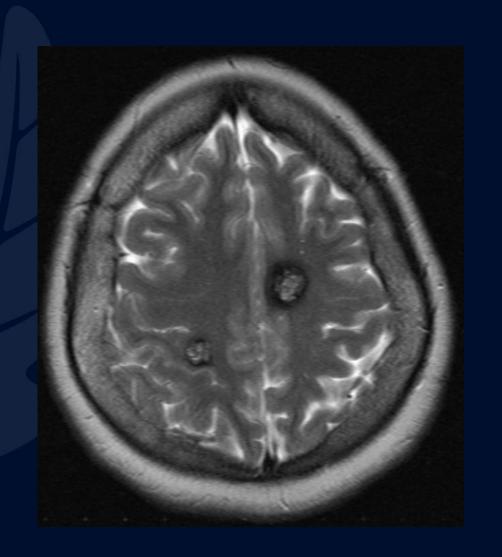




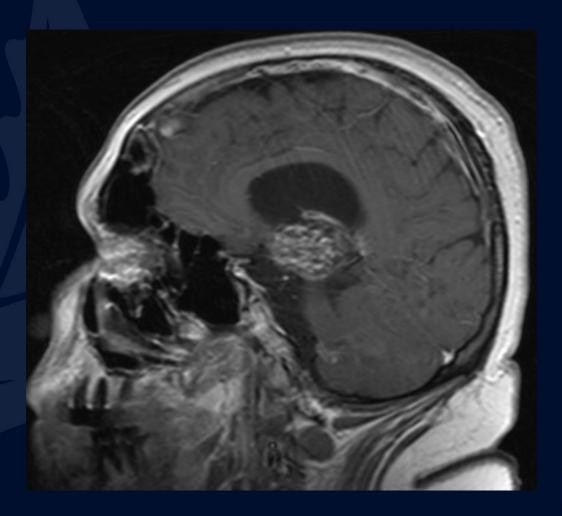




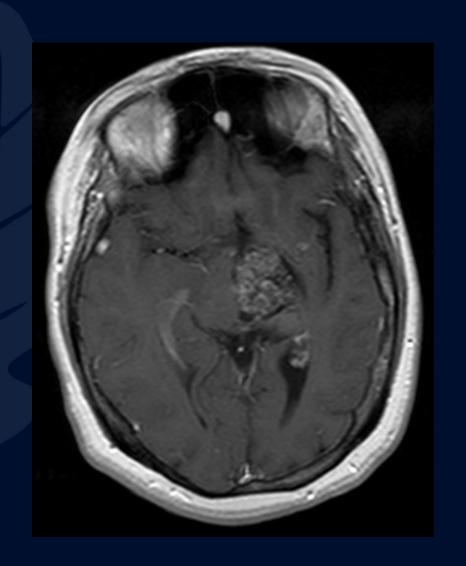




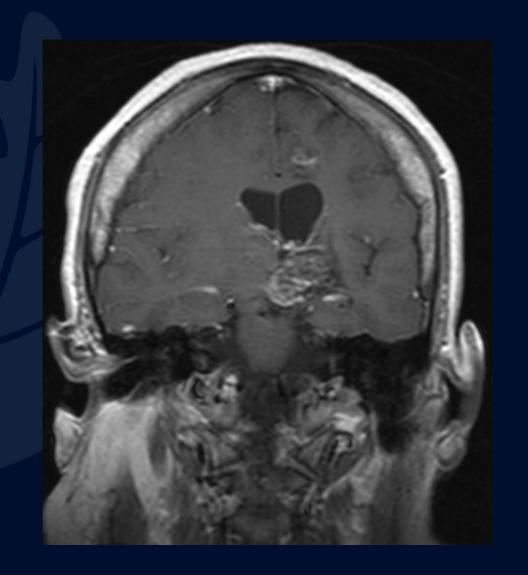












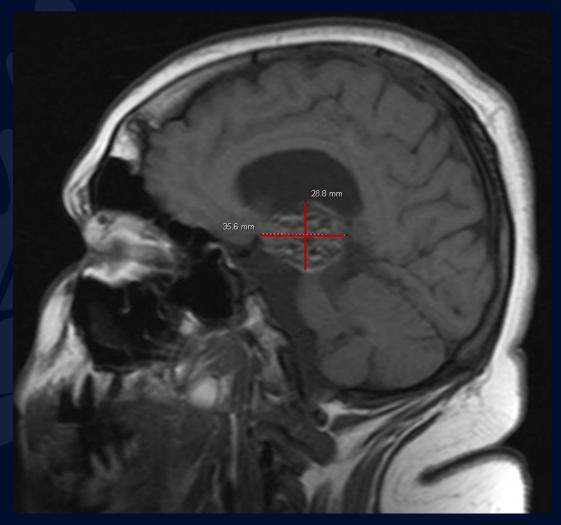






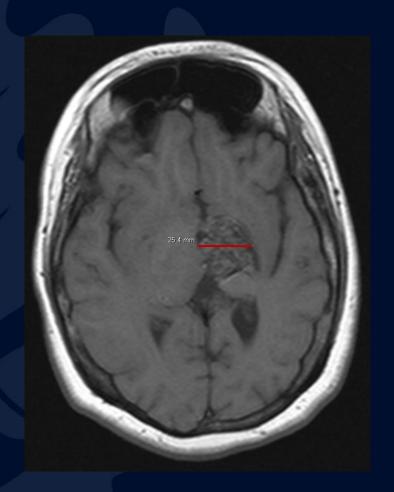
Multiple cavernous hemangiomas

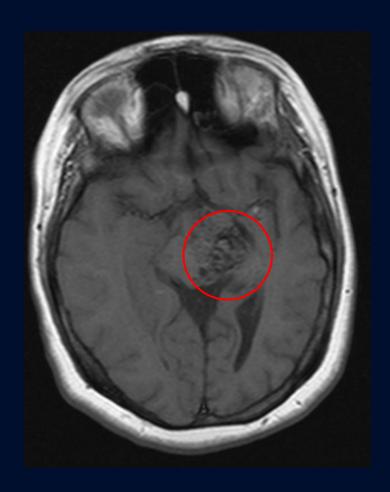




Heterogeneous lesion in the left thalamus

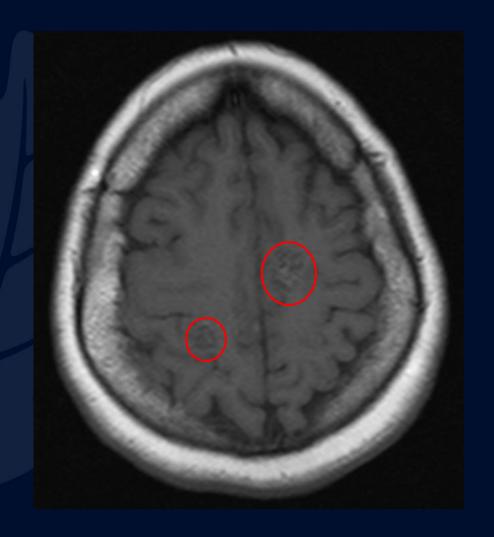






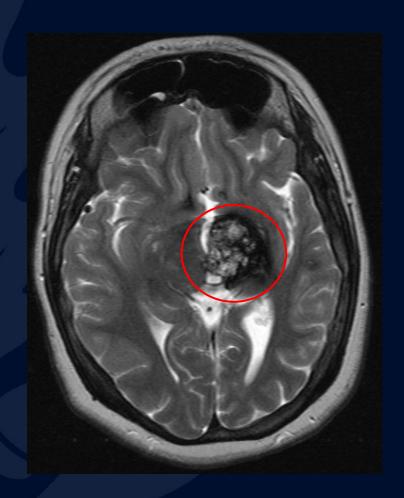
Heterogeneous lesion in the left thalamus with extension into the adjacent left cerebral peduncle





Well-circumscribed heterogeneous lesions in bilateral frontal lobes without surrounding edematous changes



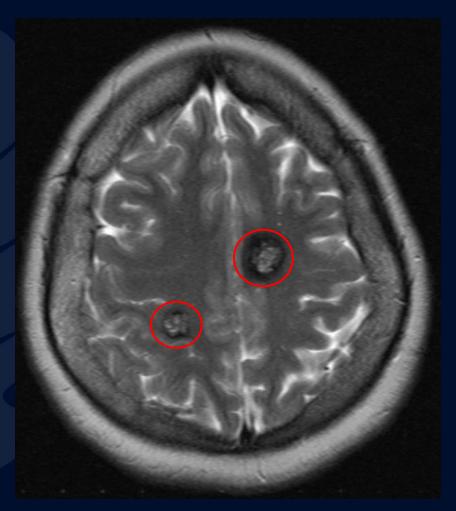




T2 heterogeneously enhancing lesion in the left thalamus with invasion of the left cerebral peduncle

Hypointense rim of lesion due to hemosiderin deposition from prior intraparenchymal hemorrhage

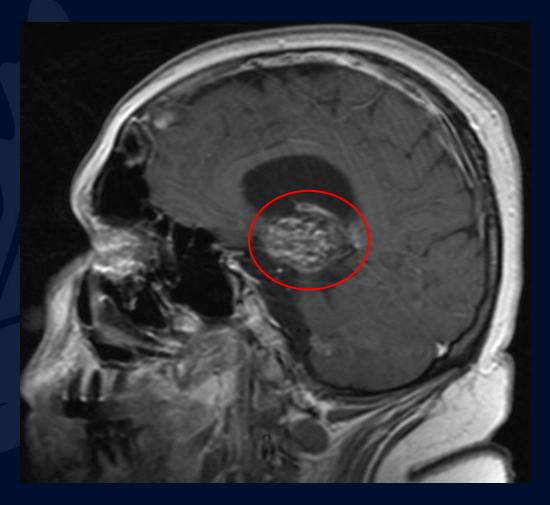




T2 heterogeneously enhancing lesions in bilateral frontal lobes with characteristic hypointense rim

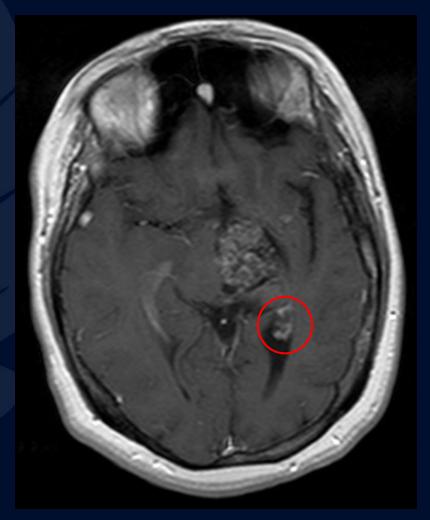
No edematous changes





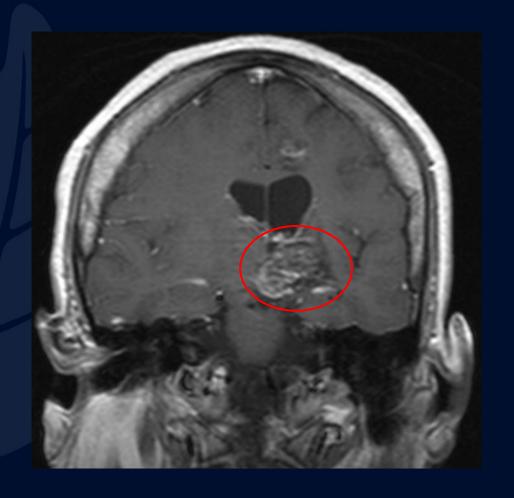
Moderate heterogeneous enhancement of lesion in the left thalamus





Extension of lesion into the posterior horn of the left lateral ventricle





Heterogeneous enhancement of left thalamic lesion extending into the left cerebral peduncle



Cavernous Hemangioma

Summary

- A common, benign, intracranial vascular malformation that forms during development
- Also known as cavernous venous malformations or cavernomas

Pathophysiology

- Grossly: characteristic "mulberry" appearance with engorged purple clusters of vessels filled with slow-moving or stagnant blood
- Histologically: clusters of hyalinized dilated thin-walled capillaries, with surrounding hemosiderin, and varying degrees of vessel thrombosis

Epidemiology

- Most patients present symptomatically at 40-60 years of age with a single lesion.
- Multiple lesions may be due to familial multiple cavernous malformation syndrome
- Cavernous malformations can be commonly seen following cerebral radiotherapy
- ~40% (range of 20-50%) of cavernous malformations are incidental findings on neuro-imaging due to the lack of symptoms



Cavernous Hemangioma

Treatment & Management:

Asymptomatic cavernous hemangiomas are treated conservatively through observation, irrespective of location

- Serial routine MRIs to monitor changes, especially evidence of hemorrhage

Surgical removal may be considered in any of the following scenarios:

- The lesion abuts the surface of the brain stem
- Recurrent hemorrhages result in progressive neurological deficits
- Hemorrhagic blood is entering the surrounding parenchyma
- Growth of the cavernoma is causing visible compression of surrounding parenchyma

Surgical resection:

- Patients are treated with steroids preoperatively to limit edema
- Complete removal of the lesion, including hemosiderin ring, is required to avoid further recurring hemorrhagic events as well as to ensure complete seizure control
- Contraindication for surgical resection:
 - O Presence of associated DVA due to risk of venous infarction
- Stereotactic radiosurgery is a potential alternative for surgically inaccessible lesions



Cavernous Hemangioma

Differential diagnoses to consider

- Cerebral amyloid angiopathy
- Chronic hypertensive encephalopathy
- Diffuse axonal injury
- Cerebral vasculitis
- Radiation-induced vasculopathy
- Hemorrhagic metastases
- Hemorrhagic primary brain tumor
- Parry-Romberg syndrome



References

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