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Cerebral hemi atrophy as a consequence of cerebral insult in infancy: Is it difficult to diagnose?

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Brain insult from a variety of causes from foetal stage to early infancy can result in cerebral hemi atrophy. The causes are either congenital i.e. idiopathic (primary) and intrauterine vascular injury or acquired i.e. perinatal intracranial hemorrhage, infection (encephalitis), trauma, vascular abnormalities (Sturge-Weber's syndrome), ischaemia, hypoxia etc. When the cerebral volume reduces in early stages it may lead to changes in the skull which is apparent radiologically known as Dyke-Davidoff- Masson syndrome (DDMS). MRI reveals changes in the brain parenchyma with thinning of grey matter, reduced volume of white matter, enlarged lateral ventricle, reduced size of cerebral peduncles (ipsilateral) and reduced size of cerebellar hemisphere. We report a case of recurring seizures in a young 22 years female who presented to psychiatry outpatient in a tertiary care hospital and was detected to have DDMS.

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