

Hypertensive Emergency with Multiple Spontaneous Intracerebral Hemorrhages

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A forty-seven-year-old male was brought to the hospital in an unconscious state. He had a history of untreated hypertension. He developed sudden severe headache followed by generalized tonic-clonic seizure with the up rolling of the eyes for five minutes followed by loss of consciousness. The Glasgow coma scale (GCS) was E1M2V1; the pupils were 2 mm, non-reactive to light and bilateral papilledema. He was in a decerebrated posture, with generalized hypotonia, hyperreflexia, and extensor plantar responses.

Electrocardiogram (ECG) revealed a significant left ventricular hypertrophy based on multiple voltage criteria. CT brain revealed large hyperdense areas at the left thalamus and the brainstem (pons and midbrain) extending into the fourth ventricle and prepontine cistern. The patient was intubated and managed conservatively. He expired within twenty-four hours of his admission. He died due to cardiopulmonary arrest.

The simultaneous development of two or more spontaneous hypertensive cerebral hemorrhage attack is rare, and there are very few cases reported in the literature. We report such unusual case of hypertensive emergency with spontaneous hemorrhage involving the thalamic, midbrain and pons.