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Post Thrombolysis Intracranial Hemorrhage

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Description

Intra cranial hemorrhage is a major complication of thrombolytic therapy in acute ischemic stroke which is also associated with high mortality. It typically occurs within 24-36 hours of treatment initiation and is characterized by rapid hematoma development and growth [1]. The most consistently identified predictors of clinically significant ICH in acute revascularization trials have been thrombolytic therapy, dose of lytic agents, edema or mass effect on head CT, stroke severity, and age. Other risk factors may be hyperglycemia, concurrent heparin use, timing of therapy, and timing of successful recanalization [2,3] (Figures 1 and 2).

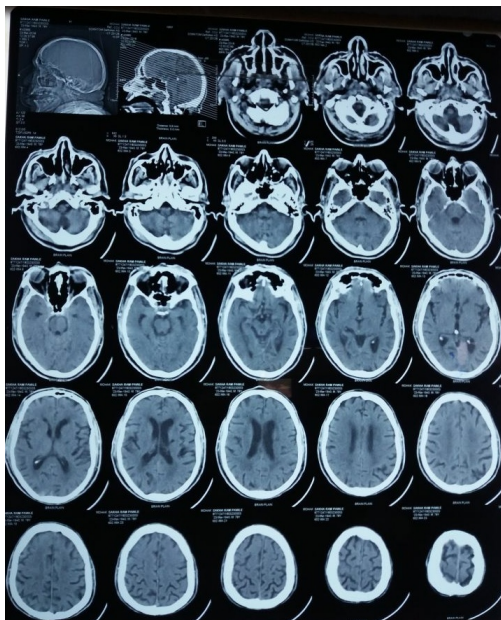


Figure 1 Baseline CT scan done immediately after stroke.

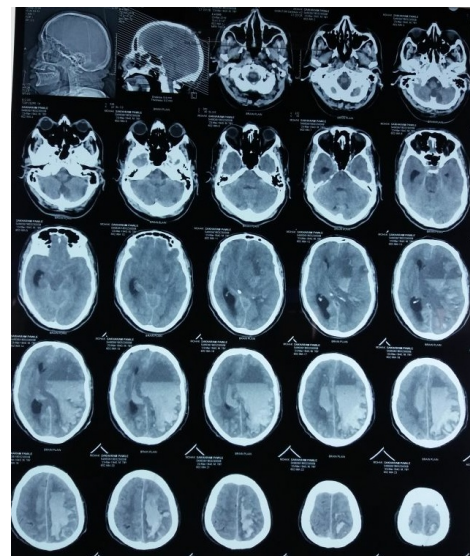


Figure 2 CT scan after tissue plasminogen activator (alteplase) showing massive intracranial hemorrhage in left fronto-parietal region.

References

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