A Middle Aged Man with a Big Head since Childhood

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ABSTRACT

This is a description of a middle aged man who had a large head hidden below his hair that was also unknown to his family until one day he was taken to the hospital after a fall in the bathroom and a subsequent loss of consciousness. He remained in a comatose state for several days before gradually recovering, which coincided with a recovery of motor and cognitive skills. A computerized tomography scan revealed a surprising finding, that this man had less brain tissue than what is commonly found in adult humans. The findings and its clinical relevance has been discussed in this case study.

Keywords: Cerebellar Vermis, Computerized Tomography, Hydrocephalus, Large Head, Ventriculo Peritoneal Shunt

INTRODUCTION

A 55 year old man presented with h/o sudden fall in bathroom followed by loss of consciousness for an hour for which he was admitted to a hospital and underwent a CT scan of his head (Figure 1).

Following this he was operated for a ventriculo-peritoneal shunt placement (in another hospital even before he presented to our centre) and his attendants reported a few days of improvement of sensorium following the surgery but soon after that the patient passed again into a coma.

When he was brought to our centre he was still comatose and slowly regained consciousness over a few days of conservative management followed by improvement in his cognitive and motor skills within one week and he was able to sit, recognise and talk to his family members.

Patient was again readmitted after a month with continuous partial seizure which was later well controlled on antiepileptic drugs.

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