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Intravascular large cell B lymphoma presenting as central nervous system pseudo-vasculitis: A rare diagnostic challenge

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Abstract
Intravascular large B cell lymphoma (IVLBCL) is a very rare subtype of aggressive non-Hodgkin B cell lymphoma characterized by intravascular proliferation of clonal B lymphocytes, classically associated with pulmonary and cutaneous disease and, less frequently, with central nervous system (CNS) involvement. Brain imaging findings are usually non-specific, with evidence of multiple vascular occlusions and stroke as non-specific multifocal abnormalities. We present an exceptionally rare case of IVLBCL in a patient with unexplained inflammatory syndrome with B symptoms and rapidly progressive neurological impairment, with multifocal hemorrhagic and tumefactive brain lesions seen on MRI. We suggest that in this clinical setting, the presence of tumefactive and hemorrhagic lesions should raise suspicion for IVLBCL and lead to the decision to perform a biopsy, which, nonetheless, remains the diagnostic gold standard. © The Author(s) 2023.

Author Keywords
central nervous system; Intravascular large B cell lymphoma; MRI

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