



Case Report

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Fahr's Disease Presenting as Primary Progressive Aphasia

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Introduction

A 66 years-old-man presented with progressive word-finding difficulties and impulsive behavior. Examination showed non-fluent aphasia, anomia, impulse control disorder, executive dysfunction and ataxia. Neuropsychological testing was consistent with primary progressive aphasia. Labs were unremarkable, including parathyroid hormone, calcium, and phosphorus. CT head showed

symmetric calcifications in basal ganglia, thalamus and cerebellum (Figure 1 A, B, C). Brain PET was normal. Fahr's disease also known as an idiopathic basal ganglia calcification may have genetic, infectious, metabolic etiology and typically presents with movement disorders. Dysarthria is common, but aphasia has not been reported.^{1,2} This unusual clinical presentation is likely secondary to the involvement of frontal projections [1,2].

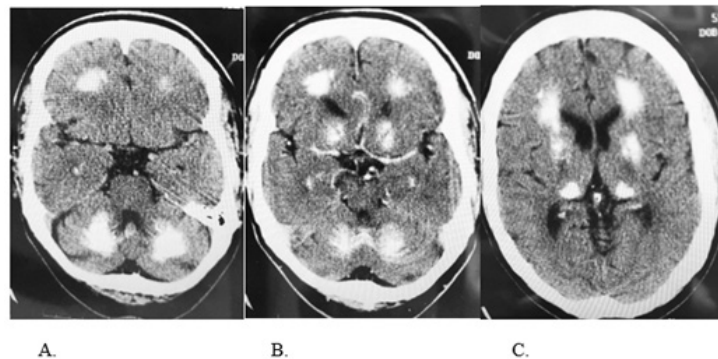


Figure 1: A, B, C. Axial head CT without contrast shows extensive, but symmetric brain calcifications.

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Disclosures

The authors report no disclosures relevant to the manuscript.

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None.

Conflicts of Interest

None.

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