Stroke Case Study

SAH ON CT SCAN

BASILAR TIP ANEURYSM

3D RECONSTRUCTION

POST-COILING

PATIENT HISTORY:

Patient is a 49 y/o female who experienced a sudden decreased level of consciousness and severe headache. The patient's husband called EMS who transported the patient to Brackenridge Hospital. A "Code Stroke" was called, and a CT stroke protocol was done. The NIH Stroke Scale was 3. The initial CT scan of the head was done which showed a subarachnoid hemorrhage. A neurosurgeon was consulted, who ordered an angiogram of the cerebral arteries.

The results of the angiogram showed a large basilar tip aneurysm.

TREATMENT COURSE

The neurosurgeon and an interventional neuroradiologist consulted regarding the patient's diagnostic tests. The patient was treated with endovascular coiling of the aneurysm. This involved the insertion of a Neuroform stent across the basilar artery to stabilize Gugliemi coils that were inserted into the aneurysm to prevent further bleeding.

HOSPITAL COURSE

The patient was admitted to the Intensive Care Unit for close monitoring post-procedure. Her NIH Stroke Scale became normal, with a return to a normal level of consciousness. Serial transcranial dopplers were done to monitor for increased velocity suggestive of vasospasm. A repeat CT of the head was done post procedure Day 3 because of worsening headaches. This was done to assess for the presence of additional subarachnoid hemorrhage or the presence of hydrocephalus. Her CT scan showed resolving subarachnoid hemorrhage. She was treated with steroids and muscle relaxants with good pain control.

OUTCOME AND FOLLOW-UP

The patient was observed in the Intensive Care Unit for a total of seven days. She was discharged home with a cerebrovascular specific calcium channel blocker, Plavix and low dose aspirin because of the stent, and a tapering steroid dose. Patient was to follow up with both physicians in one month.

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