



Common to Uncommon: Unravelling the Reversible Dementia

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INTRODUCTION

Most dementias are caused by neurodegenerative disease for which treatment options are limited ,Currently there is increased awareness of immune-mediated processes involving structures concerning cognition and behaviour. These diseases typically present subacutely with evidence of inflammation and pathologic antibodies, there is a potential role of immunomodulatory agents

CASE REPORT

75 year old male , known hypertensive presented with history of memory impairment from past 2 years, initially episodic recent memory impairment which gradually progressed, to visuospatial & way finding difficulties. His spouse also reported hypersexuality from past 1 year.

Examination revealed memory impairment of immediate and recent events, MoCA score of 11 with impairment in attention, vigilance and abstract thinking.

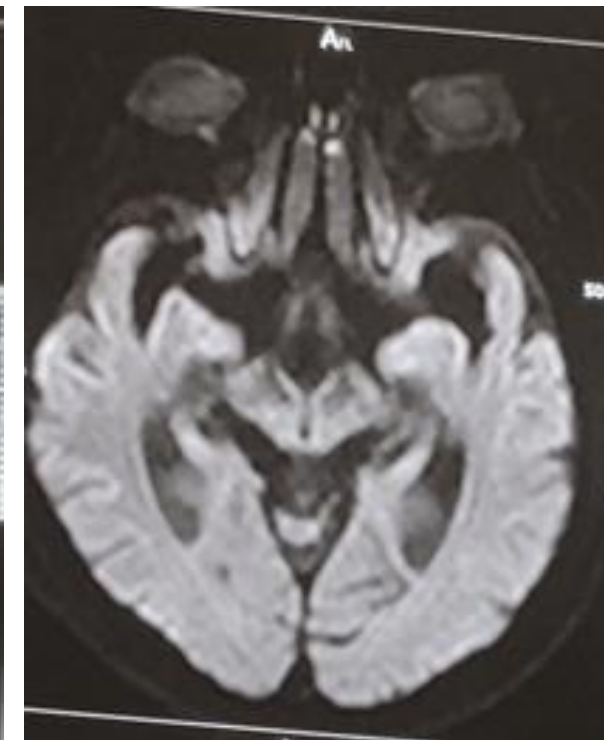
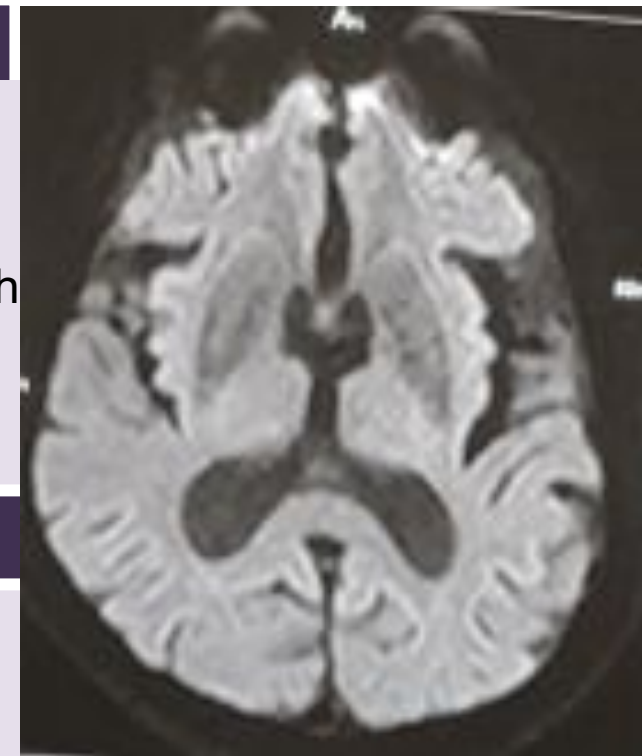
In view of rapidly progressive symptoms he was evaluated for secondary causes of dementia. Routine blood investigations were normal.

MRI brain showed diffuse cerebral atrophy predominantly bilateral temporal lobe, serum paraneoplastic panel showed anti amphiphysin 2 antibody positivity.

He was subjected to PET scan, which revealed thyroid carcinoma with lungs and skeletal metastasis.

Thyroid FNAC unveiled papillary carcinoma of thyroid .

He underwent total thyroidectomy and radioiodine ablation for metastasis and is under follow up



MRI brain showing features of neuroparenchymal atrophy predominantly in bilateral frontal, parietal and temporal areas , PET CT showing metabolically active region in right lobe of thyroid (Primary)and right rib(Metastasis)

DISCUSSION

Amphiphysin is an intracellular antigen associated with small cell lung cancer or breast cancer, it manifests with paraneoplastic neurological syndromes

Limbic encephalitis and stiff-person syndrome are the most common paraneoplastic syndromes seen in patients with anti-amphiphysin antibodies, association of anti amphiphysin antibodies with thyroid malignancy is very rare

CONCLUSION

:Immune-mediated dementias typically require urgent diagnosis and treatment of the underlying etiology and with immunomodulators, awareness about immune-mediated dementias and their associated symptoms should lead to diagnosis and management of these mysterious conditions