Symmetrical Cerebral Arteriovenous Malformations in Bilateral Basal Ganglia

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A 23-year-old otherwise healthy woman developed left hemiparesis because of small right thalamic hemorrhage. The cerebral angiography revealed symmetrical arteriovenous malformations (AVMs) in the bilateral basal ganglia. Each AVM was supplied by

ipsilateral lenticulostriate and choroidal arteries, which drained into the galenic venous system (fig. 1). The patient recovered well and the AVM was subsequently treated with focused irradiation therapy.

Multiple cerebral AVMs are very rare. The present case is unique in its symmetrical strategic localization and serves as a reminder of the clinicoradiological variability displayed by an AVM.

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Fig. 1. Carotid angiograms – right side (a) and left side (b) – and left vertebral angiograms of the arterial phase (c), showing symmetrical bilateral basal ganglion AVMs.