

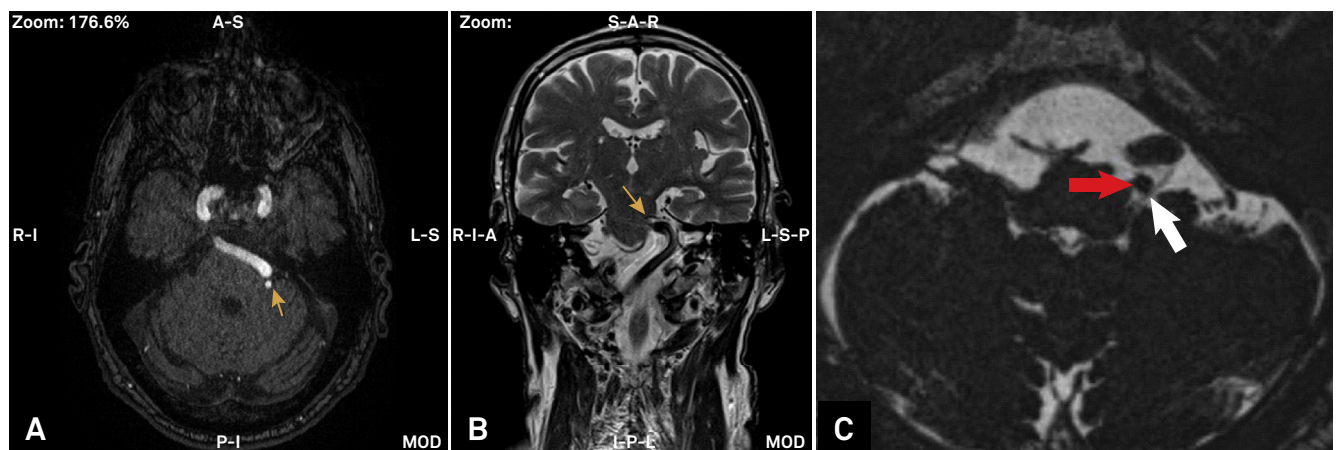
# Painful tic convulsive as manifestation of vertebrobasilar dolichoectasia

Tique convulsivo doloroso como manifestação de dolicoectasia vertebrobasilar

Carlos Arteaga Rodriguez<sup>1</sup>, Heraldo de Oliveira Mello Neto<sup>2</sup>, Otto Jesus Hernandez Fustes<sup>3</sup>, Hélio Afonso Ghizoni Teive<sup>3</sup>

A 79-year-old man presented with a one-year history of intense, paroxysmal, left-sided facial pain (V2 and V3 trigeminal division), that felt like an electric shock for a duration of seconds, and four months of involuntary spasms of the left side of the face involving perioral and periorcular muscles. An MRI with angiography showed a vertebrobasilar dolichoectasia causing compression of the left V,

VII and VIII cranial nerves (Figures 1 A and B, and 2). The combined presentation of hemifacial spasm and ipsilateral trigeminal neuralgia is also known as painful tic convulsive, which is a rare condition commonly associated with vascular compression<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>. We report a case secondary to vertebrobasilar dolichoectasia.



**Figure 1.** MRI: a) Time-of-flight axial image at the level of the cerebellopontine angle showing vascular compression of the left vertebral artery on the cisternal segment of the VII and VIII cranial nerves (yellow arrow); b) Coronal image in T2 shows tortuosity of the basilar artery dislocating superiorly to the cisternal segment of the V left cranial nerve (yellow arrow); c) Minimum intensity projection of axial constructive interference steady state imaging shows the segment V4 of the left vertebral artery (red arrow), displacing the proximal portion of the VII / VIII left cranial nerves (white arrow).

<sup>1</sup>Universidade Positivo, Curitiba, PR, Brasil;

<sup>2</sup>X Leme Diagnóstico por Imagem, Curitiba, PR, Brasil;

<sup>3</sup>Universidade Federal do Paraná, Hospital de Clínicas, Serviço de Neurologia, Curitiba, PR, Brasil.

Otto Jesus Hernandez Fustes  <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0778-5376>

**Correspondence:** Otto J. H. Fustes; Rua General Carneiro 181 / SAM 25; 80060-900 Curitiba PR, Brasil; E-mail: otto.fustes@hc.ufpr.br

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**Figure 2.** MRI. a) Left vertebral basilar dolichoectasia with a diameter of 6 mm; b) Axial FLAIR image shows vertebral basilar dolichoectasia promoting rectification and compression on the left ventrolateral face of the pons.

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