CASE REPORT

DECIPHERING RING ENHANCING LESIONS

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Abstract: Ring enhancing lesion in the brain is a radiological feature caused by large gamut of diseases and is not pathognomonic of a specific condition. Albeit, commonest cause of ring enhancing lesion is neurocysticercosis, central nervous system tuberculosis predominates in developing countries like India. It is vital for a clinician to be mindful of subtle differences in size of the lesion, type of spread, and magnetic resonance imaging findings for timely diagnosis. Here, we report one such case of a young adolescent girl who presented with suspected central nervous system infection and magnetic resonance imaging showing ring enhancing lesions which later turned out to be central nervous system tubercular lesions.

Keywords: Neurocysticercosis, Tuberculosis, Ring enhancing lesions.

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Points to Remember

- Lesions in CNS miliary tuberculosis are tiny and appear hypointense on T2 weighted sequences, as opposed to tuberculomas which are larger in size with diffusion restriction on diffusion weighted imaging.
- In NCC, MRI reveals single or multiple lesions in different stages of evolution.
- Stopping steroids earlier in CNS miliary tuberculosis may lead to worsening of neurological symptoms and it should never be attempted.
- It's imperative to reconsider the diagnosis if not responding to appropriate treatment.
- Acute onset of symptoms suggestive of CNS infections / inflammations are to be thoroughly worked up before embarking on starting empirical therapy.

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