

# Epilepsy in vascular malformations



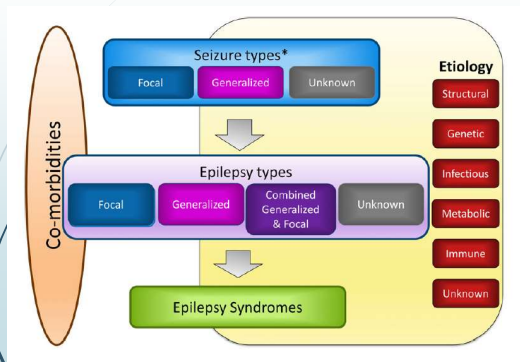
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## Outlines

- Classification of vascular malformations
- Example of vascular lesion as a symptomatic cause of epilepsy
- Predictive factors for epilepsy in vascular malformation

## Framework for classification of the epilepsy



I.E. Scheffer et al.

## Symptoms of vascular malformations of the brain

- Depend on the type, size and location of the malformation
- **Headache**
- **Seizure**
- **Bruits, Tinnitus**
- Bleeding from thin vessel walls (of vas malformation) → IICP (nausea, vomiting, headache, loss of consciousness) → **stroke**

| 2014 ISSVA Classification of Vascular Anomalies |                            |  |                        |                                 |
|---|----------------------------|--|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Vascular Tumors                                 | Vascular malformations     |  |                        |                                 |
|   | Simple                     | combined                               | Of major named vessels | Associated with other anomalies |
| • Benign  | Capillary malformation     | ≥ 2 vascular malformations in 1 lesion |                        | KTS<br>SWS<br>Proteus etc       |
| • Borderline or locally aggressive              | Lymphatic malformation     |  |                        |                                 |
|   | Venous malformation        |  |                        |                                 |
| • Malignant                                     | Arteriovenous malformation |  |                        |                                 |
|   | Arteriovenous fistula      |  |                        |                                 |

*Pediatrics 2015;136:1*

### Port-wine stain PWS: cutaneous capillary malformation

- Incidence of PWS = 0.3 % of newborns (3 per 1,000)
- Present at birth and persist throughout life
- Sex ratio = 1:1
- Unilateral and involves several dermatome of face and neck
- PWS associated with SWS : 1 per 20 to 50,000 live births.
- The overall risk of SWS associated with any kind of facial nevus vascular malformation is 8%

*Pediatric Dermatology 2012;29:32-37  
Pediatr Neurol 2016;64:52-58*

### SWS: Encephalotrigeminal Angiomatosis

- Facial port-wine stain (PWS)
- Neurological malformations (ipsilateral **leptomeningeal capillaro**venous anomaly)
- Sometimes, ophthalmologic abnormalities (choroid vascular anomaly or congenital glaucoma)

### Classification of SWS (Roach scale)

| Type           | Facial angioma | Leptomeningeal angioma | Glaucoma         |
|----------------|----------------|------------------------|------------------|
| I <sup>a</sup> | +              | +                      | +/-              |
| II             | +              | -                      | +/-              |
| III            | -              | +                      | -/+ <sup>b</sup> |

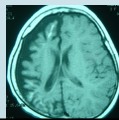
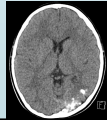
- <sup>a</sup> Classic Sturge Weber syndrome  
<sup>b</sup> Usually not present

*European Journal of Paediatric Neurology 2014;18:257-266  
Pediatr Neurol 2016;64:52-58*

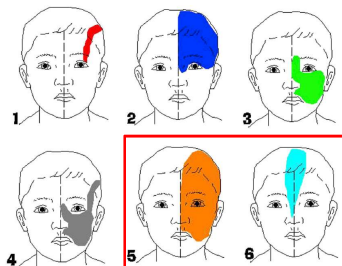
## Imaging finding in SWS

At least one of the following:

1. contrast-enhanced leptomeningeal vascular anomalies
2. choroid plexus enlargement
3. cortical calcifications
4. cerebral atrophy
5. absence of superficial venous drainage or enlarged deep hemispheric vessels



## Can PWS predict SWS ?



Location that increased risk of SWS

1. Midline crossing ( $p < 0.001$ )
2. Temporal area ( $p = 0.04$ )
3. Nose area ( $p = 0.005$ )

*J Am Acad Dermatol 2015;72:473-480*

- Involving V1 area
- Associated with upper eyelid involvement
- Extension to the contralateral (40%)
- Homolateral proximal territories (V1 and V2 or V1, V2 and V3: 80%)

*Pediatric Dermatology 2012;29:32-37*

## Risk of seizure

- In patient with facial PWS in the absence of SWS = risk similar to general population
- In patient with facial PWS with SWS = frequency of seizure is higher (70-90%)

*Pediatric Dermatology 2012;29:32-37*  
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### Predictive factors for epilepsy in pediatric patient with SWS

- **Bilateral** port-wine (15%) stain is at **higher** risk of epilepsy
- **Unilateral** port-wine stain **did not** increase the risk of epilepsy regardless of its extent
- The presence of **DVA** (developmental venous anomalies) increased the risk of developing epilepsy ( $p=0.03$ )

*Pediatr Neurol 2016;64:52-58*

### Epilepsy in SWS(1)

- Occurs in 72% of unilateral cerebral involvement
- Occurs  $\geq 90\%$  in bilateral involvement
- Often begin in the 1<sup>st</sup> year of life and generally by 2 years of age (later in life = 10%)
- Focal onset with secondary generalization
- Seizures commonly occur in clusters or as **status epilepticus**
- Increased susceptibility for **fever induced seizures** at any age

*Frontiers in Neurology 2017*

### Epilepsy in SWS (2)

- Prolonged seizures in SWS = worsen cognitive function
- Seizure may be medically intractable in 30-50% of SWS patients
- Seizure in SWS can be progressive as brain atrophy → refractory epilepsy
- FCD is also associated with SWS, drug resistant epilepsy

*Frontiers in Neurology 2017  
Epilepsia 2010;51:257-267*

### Epilepsy outcome in SWS (3)

- Poor outcome : seizures in early life (< 6 mo)  
: extensive brain pathology
- Better outcome : late onset of seizure (late childhood)

## Glaucoma

- PWS in V1 territory had 12.2% of congenital glaucoma
- PWS with V1 and V2 extension had 92% of glaucoma
- SWS with congenital glaucoma (30-40%) occurred in all cases with V1 territory involvement
- Glaucoma is not always ipsilateral to facial PWS

*Pediatric Dermatology 2012;29:32-37*

## Molecular basis of SWS

- Post zygotic somatic mosaic **mutation of GNAQ**
- Abnormal protein production
- Altered expression of angiogenesis factors: vascular endothelial growth factor, hypoxia-inducible factors alpha 1 and fibronectin
- **Result** = abnormal vessel development, cerebral calcification, neuronal loss, astrogliosis and cortical dysgenesis

## Counselling pt with PWS

- If the PWS spares V1= family can be reassured
- If PWS involves V1, ophthalmologic examination should always be performed
- Imaging should be added if PWS (V1) associated with at least one of the following:
  - ophthalmologic,
  - neurologic abnormalities,
  - extension of the stain to the upper eyelid,
  - V2 or V3 territory,
  - contralateral hemiface

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|                                    | <b>Venous malformation</b> |  |                        |                                 |
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|                                    | Arteriovenous fistula      |  |                        |                                 |

*Pediatrics 2015;136:1*

## Cerebral Cavernous Malformations (CCMs)

- 0.5% of the population
- Solitary or multiple nodular aggregated of thin-walled, round, closely packed veins → slow moving blood
- No normal tissue structures are enclosed in the lesion between the abnormal veins
- **Two forms:** familial and sporadic
- Familial forms: e.g. *KRIT1*(CCM1), *CCM2*, *PDCD10*(CCM3)
- **Symptoms:** asymptomatic, HA, **seizure**, stroke etc

## Cerebral Cavernous Malformations (CCMs)

- Established risk factors of seizure
  - : Supratentorial lesion
  - : cortical involvement
  - : mesial temporal lesion
- Controversial risk factors
  - : number of cavernomas
  - : size of cavernomas
  - : presence of absence of hemosiderin rim around lesion
- Treatment: if seizure → AED
  - : Uncontrolled sz with AED → Sx ?

*Epilepsia 2013;54:2025-2035*

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*Pediatrics 2015;136.1*

## AVM (1)

- Commonest presentation: hemorrhage; 50%
  - : epilepsy; 30%
- **Small** lesion (< 3 cm) presents with **hemorrhage**
- **Large** lesion presents with **epilepsy**
- Other manifestations: progressive neurological deficit

*World Neurosurg 2015;84:645-652*  
*Radiopedia.org*

## AVM(2)

- Overall annual rate of epilepsy: 1%
- Overall annual rate of hemorrhage: 3%
- Unruptured AVM has annual hemorrhage rate of 2.2%
- Ruptured AVM has annual hemorrhage rate of 4.5%
- Recurrent hemorrhage 6-18% in 1<sup>st</sup> year and declines to pre-hemorrhage rate over 5 years
- Mortality rate of 1% per year

## AVM(3)

### Seizure may related to

- Overt intracranial hemorrhage
- Hemosiderin deposition following recurrent micro hemorrhage
- Secondary to venous HT
- Ischemia

### Predictor of seizure

- Unruptured, large, cortical-based AVM

*World Neurosurg 2015;84:645-652*

## Treatment of AVM

- Conservative treatment
- Microsurgery
- Endovascular embolization
- Radiosurgery