

Images in Infectious Diseases

Acute disseminated encephalomyelitis following coronavirus disease vaccination

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A 76-year-old man presented to our hospital with bilateral progressive amaurosis and consciousness disorder 4 weeks after he had received the Sinovac coronavirus disease (COVID-19) vaccine. He had no notable medical history, mildly elevated levels of cerebrospinal fluid protein, and a normal blood cell count. Brain magnetic resonance imaging findings revealed multiple white-matter lesions bilaterally (**Figure 1A-D**). The suspected diagnosis was acute disseminated encephalomyelitis. This disease usually develops following viral infection or vaccination and is characterized by monophasic acute inflammation and demyelination of the white matter, typically 1–2 weeks after exposure. Few reports have described the occurrence of acute disseminated encephalomyelitis following COVID-19 vaccination^{1,2}.

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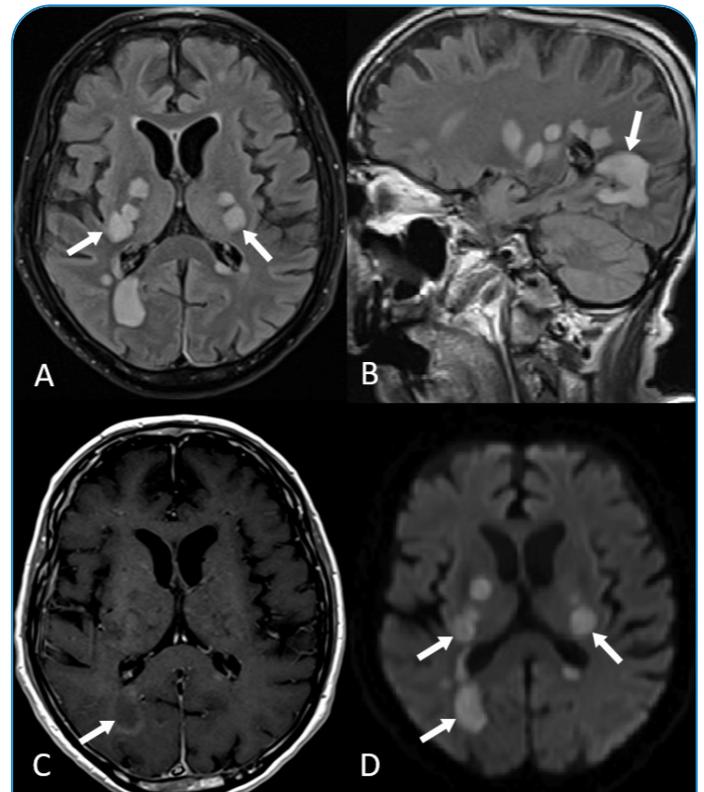


FIGURE 1: Fluid-attenuated inversion recovery magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) findings in the (A) axial and (B) sagittal views showing multiple hyperintense white matter lesions and basal nuclei bilaterally (arrows). (C) Contrast-enhanced T1-weighted MRI findings showing an incomplete arc of contrast enhancement (arrows). (D) MRI diffusion-weighted imaging showing hyperintense lesions (arrows).

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