REFERENCES

- 1 Fink JK, Heiman-Patterson T, Bird T, *et al*. Hereditary spastic paraplegia: advances in genetic research. Hereditary Spastic Paraplegia Working group. *Neurology* 1996;**46**:1507–14.
- 2 Hausmanowa-Petrusewicz I, Vrbova G. Spinal muscular atrophy: a delayed development hypothesis. *Neuroreport* 2005;**16**:657–61.
- 3 Ince PG, Lowe J, Shaw PJ. Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis: current issues in classification, pathogenesis and molecular pathology. *Neuropathol Appl Neurobiol* 1998;**24**:104–17.
- 4 Oey PL, Vos PE, Wieneke GH, *et al*. Subtle involvement of the sympathetic nervous system in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. *Muscle Nerve* 2002;**25**:402–8.
- 5 Mulleners WM, Van Ravenswaay CMA, Gabreels FJM, *et al*. Spinal muscular atrophy combined with congenital heart disease: a report of two cases. *Neuropediatrics* 1996;**27**:333–4.
- 6 Lagarde P, Bakouche P, Lamotte-Barrillon S. The Wohlfart-Kugelberg-Welander disease. A clinical case with nonobstructive myocardiopathy. *La Semaine des hôpitaux* 1976;**52**:1017–21.
- 7 Yasuma F, Kuru S, Konagaya M. Dilated cardiomyopathy in Kugelberg-Welander disease: coexisting sleep disordered breathing and its treatment with continuous positive airway pressure. *Intern Med* 2004;**43**:951–4.
- 8 Olson TM, Keating MT. Mapping a cardiomyopathy locus to chromosome 3p22-p25. *J Clin Invest* 1996;**97**:528–32.
- 9 Takayama N, Iwase Y, Ohtsu S, *et al*. "Takotsubo" cardiomyopathy developed in the postoperative period in a patient with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. *Masui* 2004;**53**:403–6.
- 10 Akashi YJ, Sakakibara M, Miyake F. Reversible left ventricular dysfunction "takotsubo" cardiomyopathy associated with pneumothorax. *Heart* 2002;**87**:e1.
- 11 Rubio-Gozalbo ME, Smeitink JA, Ruitenbeek W, *et al*. Spinal muscular atrophy-like picture, cardiomyopathy and cytochrome c oxidase deficiency. *Neurology* 1999;**52**:383–6.
- 12 Pons R, Andreetta F, Wang CH, *et al*. Mitochondrial myopathy simulating spinal muscular atrophy. *Pediatr Neurol* 1996;**15**:153–8.
- 13 Dec GW, Fuster V. Idiopathic dilated cardiomyopathy. *N Engl J Med* 1994;**331**:1564–75.

NEUROLOGICAL PICTURE

doi: 10.1136/jnnp.2005.081422

Temporal arteritis or phlebitis?

A 75 year old woman came to us with a 2 day history of pain in the right temple on combing her hair. On examination, a thin walled, dilated tortuous vessel was seen on the right temple with a tender 20 mm cord along the course of the vessel, under the hairline. She also had enophthalmos and ptosis in the right eye. On questioning, she acknowledged that the tortuous vessel had been visible for the last few years. Her ESR was 15 mm/hour. Contrast enhanced computed tomography (CT) of the orbit showed a right orbital venous angioma extending onto the scalp. The acute scalp pain was probably due to thrombosis of the extracranial draining vein.

Neurologists immediately suspect temporal arteritis when elderly patients complain of scalp pain on touch. However, this case demonstrates the unusual occurrence of a temporal phlebitis simulating temporal arteritis.

B V Maramattom

Department of Neurology, Lourdes Hospital, Kochi, Kerala, India

Correspondence to: Dr B V Maramattom, Department of Neurology, Lourdes Hospital Kochi, Kerala, India; bobvarkey@gmail.com

Competing interests: none declared

Figure 1 (A) Clinical picture showing distended and tortuous temporal vein; (B) CT orbit showing venous angioma situated in the right orbit. Informed consent was obtained for publication of this figure.