Is this Red Spot the Blue Spot (locus ceruleus)?

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Abstract The authors report brain images of 18F-FDG-PET in a case of schizophrenia. The images showed strikingly increased bilateral uptake in the locus ceruleus. The locus ceruleus is called the blue spot and known to be a center of the norepinephrinergic system.

Keywords 18F-FDG · Brain images · Schizophrenia · Locus ceruleus · Blue spot

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Fig. 1 A 30-year-old former nurse was brought in by her family to the psychiatric outpatient clinic with a chief complaint of persecutory delusion. This delusion developed after a recent car accident with apparent brain concussion. Her sister had schizophrenia. The patient was put on antipsychotic medication (Risperidone) for 2 weeks, when an 18F-FDG-PET/CT was performed. These PET images show increased uptake in the striatum bilaterally with relative global hypometabolism of the cerebral cortex. Hyperactive striatum after antipsychotic medication has been reported [1]. Of particular note is the presence of strikingly increased uptake (red spots) in the areas of the locus ceruleus. The locus ceruleus is dorsally located in the rostral pons around the Sylvian aqueduct. It is called the blue spot [2]

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