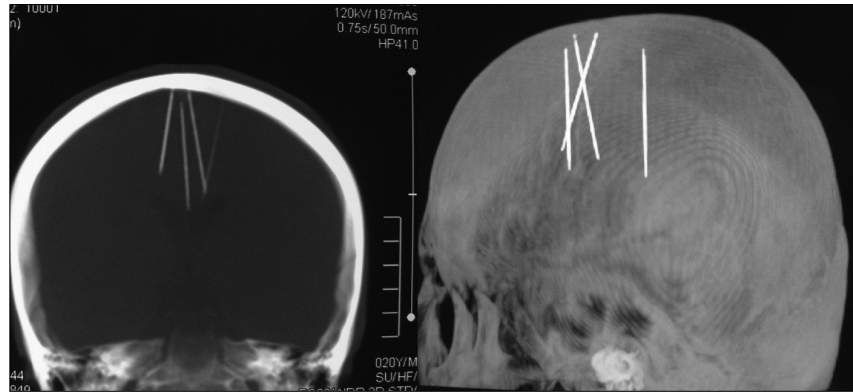


Epilepsi Patient with Four Sewing Needles in his Brain

Beyninde Dört Dikiş İğnesi Olan Epilepsi Hastası

Hakan Tekeli, Mehmet Güney Şenol, Mustafa Tansel Kendirli, Fatih Özdağ
GATA Haydarpaşa Training Hospital, Neurology Department, İstanbul, Turkey

The role of imaging in the evaluation of epilepsy is of great importance in localizing the origin of the seizure and determining the etiology. We present here the interesting and unusual images of a 20 year old male patient. The patient reported that he had been losing consciousness since he was eight years old, and he had primary generalized epileptic seizures. His interictal electroencephalograms (EEG) were normal, and computerized brain tomography (CT) showed 4 sewing needles of approximately 4.5 cm length, close to the convexity of the skull and standing vertical to the corpus callosum. The patient was not aware of the presence of the needles and a surgical intervention was not planned. The patient's epileptic seizures were kept under control with antiepileptic treatment. Similar cases, albeit rare, have been reported in literature (1). The fact that all four of the needles are approximately in the same localization and in a vertical position suggests that they may have been used for infanticide.



Left: Cranial CT shows in the bone window sequence coronal section 4 vertically positioned sewing needles extending from the vertex to the corpus callosum. Right: 3D-CT shows in the sagittal section the vertical localizations of the 4 sewing needles.A

References

1. Güven G, Topuz KA, Çetinkal A, Demircan MN, Kutlay M, Çolak A. İntrakranial dikiş iğnesi nedeniyle geç başlayan epilepsi: olgu sunumu. Türk Nöroloji Dergisi 2008;14:353-6.