

## E-Pearl of the Week

Brought to you by the Resident and Fellow Section of the Journal *Neurology*®.

May 14, 2009

### **Cerebral venous sinus thrombosis as a cause of thunderclap headache**

Cerebral venous sinus thrombosis (CVST) can be a cause of thunderclap headache, mimicking aneurysmal subarachnoid hemorrhage. Subarachnoid hemorrhage has also been described with CVST, even in the absence of hemorrhagic infarction. CT, MR, or catheter venography may be appropriate in the evaluation of some patients presenting with thunderclap headache.

#### **Reference**

Szancer S. Acute cerebral venous occlusion manifested by spontaneous subarachnoid hemorrhage. *Neurology* 1955;5:675-677.

De Bruijn SF, Stam J, Kappelle LJ. Thunderclap headache as first symptom of cerebral venous sinus thrombosis: CVST Study Group. *Lancet* 1996;348:1623-1625.

Submitted by Hani Kushlaf, MBBCh.

Dr. Hani Kushlaf reports no disclosures.