



A Young Male with Vomiting and Blurring of Vision

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Clinical Image

Mr. X, a 24-year-old non-diabetic, normotensive man from Kaliganj, Dhaka, Bangladesh presented in Dhaka Medical College Hospital with the complaints of several episodes (15) of vomiting with clear vomitus and blurring of vision for one day after ingestion of 180 ml (6 units) of vodka the previous night. His vomiting was not voluntarily induced and occurred spontaneously. The patient also complained of blurring of vision which occurred suddenly, was painless, and started with his left eye involving both eyes eventually. It progressed for the next 24 hours after which it started getting better. Fundoscopy with image showed retinal whitening and optic atrophy. Rest of history and signs are unremarkable.

His ethyl alcohol level was <10 mg/dL (N: <50). An MRI of brain was done including both orbit (Figure 1).

Patient was diagnosed as a case of Toxic encephalopathy with ocular toxicity due to methanol poisoning. This finding is commonly observed in methanol poisoning [1] and is usually result from the direct toxic effects of methanol metabolites and metabolic acidosis in the basal ganglia [2].

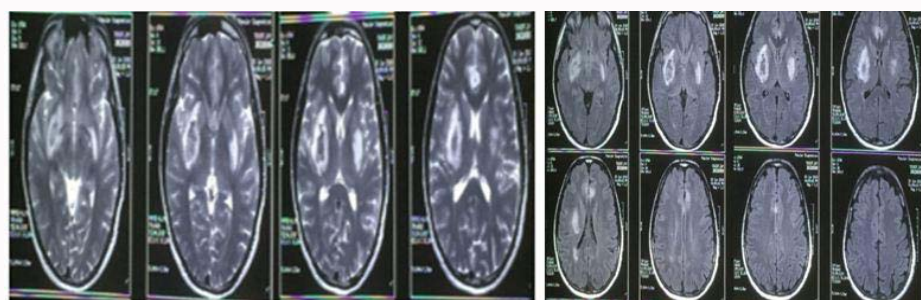


Figure 1: MRI revealing putaminal haemorrhage and demyelinating lesions in paracortical areas.

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