

Suzanne Hargreaves has completed this personal reflection on 24/06/2024

Paper: Spring 2024 CPD Questions

Personal Reflection:

The first paper was on the management of Eagle syndrome which is a condition I had not heard of. Due to this I found the condition interesting to read about. The symptoms of neck, throat, and ear pain along with ICA dissection with focal neurological deficits, TIAs and can produce carotid artery stent fractures. These symptoms can be caused by other medical conditions but if performing a scan such as a carotid doppler or TCD it would be good practice to think of this condition and if necessary, suggest the possibility to the medical staff. Provocative manoeuvres need to be performed whilst performing the ultrasound scans to see if the artery/waveform changes to indicate the presence of Eagle syndrome. The condition itself is caused by an elongated styloid process and is best assessed using CT, it can also be caused by calcified stylohyoid ligament. The condition itself is assessed for using CT plus carotid doppler and TCD in a neutral position and with provocative manoeuvres.

The second paper assessed imaging for Ehlers-Danlos syndrome. Vascular patients with this condition are know for multiple aneurysmal segments that can be increase in size over a short period of time. In patients who are young with vascular aneurysms, this condition should be considered and assessed for. Significant complications can occur that can affect the arterial system as well as aneurysms are dissection, occlusion, and the possibility of spontaneous rupture. It is very important to carefully monitor these patients with regular surveillance to try and prevent any serious complications developing.

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