An Isolated Horizontal-Gaze Paresis in a Patient with Pontine Infarction

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Picture 1.

Picture 2.

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A 78-year-old woman was admitted to our hospital because of vertigo. On neurologic examination, she had only a conjugate deviation of the eyes (Picture 1A) without consciousness disturbance and hemiparesis. The fact that oculocephalic maneuvers failed to evoke leftward gaze suggested that her gaze palsy was not supranuclear gaze palsy. On the 10th day from onset, the conjugate deviation had recovered, but she still had conjugate gaze palsy to the left (Picture 1B). Diffusion-weighted images (DWI) displayed that the lesion was restricted within the left paramedian pontine reticular formation and the paraabducens nucleus (Picture 2). An isolated horizontal-gaze paresis is a rare condition and DWI can be used to identify the pathological lesion (1-3).

References