

# CEREBRAL VENOUS THROMBOSIS

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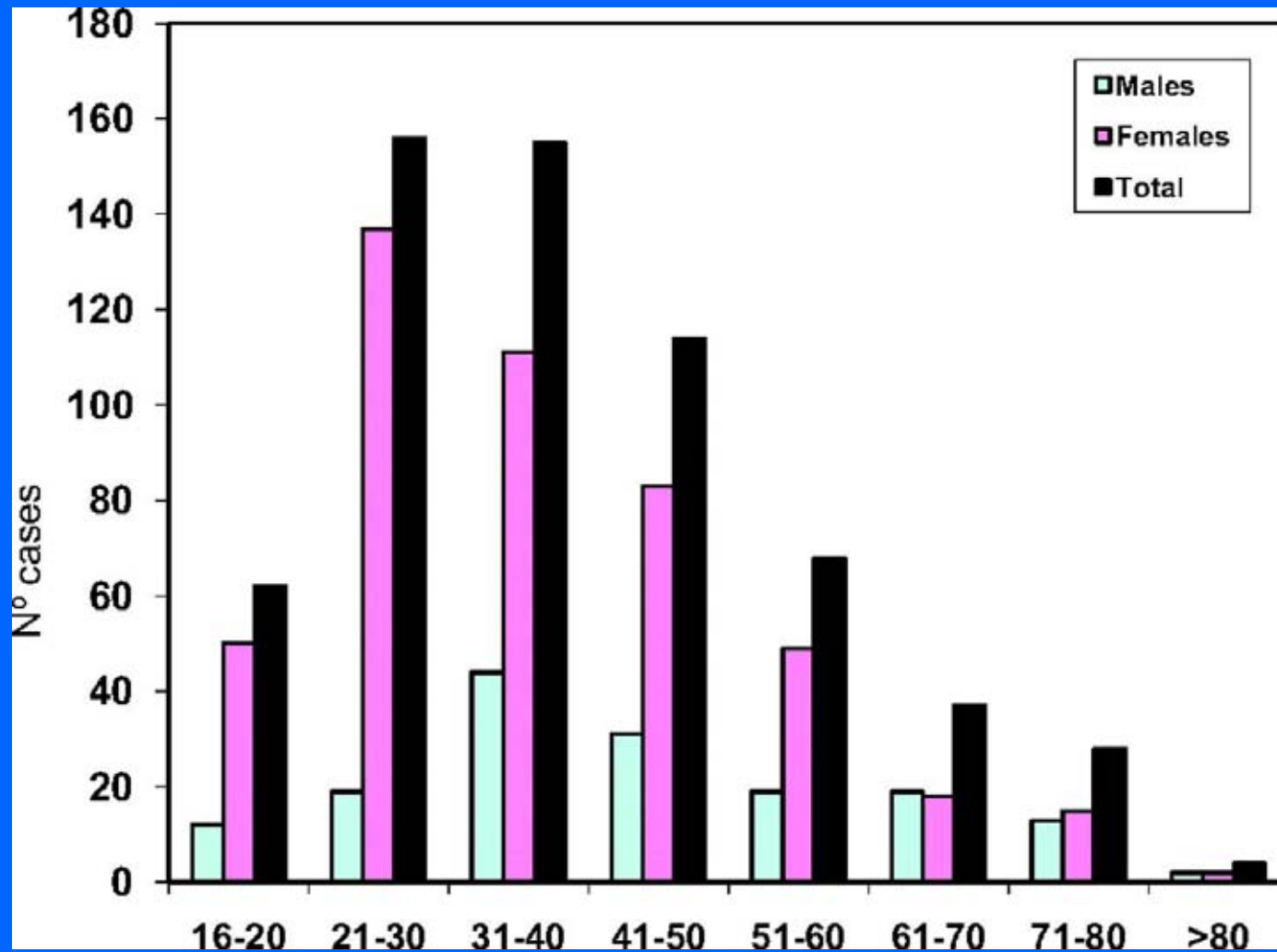
# CEREBRAL VENOUS THROMBOSIS

- DISCLOSURES
  - none

# CEREBRAL VENOUS THROMBOSIS: EPIDEMIOLOGY

- Incidence and prevalence
  - Autopsies: 1-9%
  - Hospital bases series
    - Portugal: 0.22/100 000/year (IC 95% = 0-47)
    - Isfahan, Iran: 1.23/100 000/year
    - Netherlands: 1.32/100 000/year
  - Stroke registries
    - Mexico: 3% of 2000 strokes; India: 6% of 1014 strokes
  - Pregnancy
    - 11.6/100 000 deliveries in USA
    - 136/240 (57%) pregnant women with stroke (Mexico)
  - Infants & children <18 years in Canada
    - 0.64/100 000

# CVT: DEMOGRAPHY



# CVT: PRESENTING SYNDROMES

- **Isolated intracranial hypertension syndrome**
  - Headache, nausea/vomiting, papilloedema, visual disturbances, diplopia/VI nerve palsy, tinnitus
  - Isolated headache
- **Focal syndrome**
  - Focal deficits: mono/hemiparesis, aphasia
  - Seizures
- **Encephalopathy**
  - Multifocal signs
  - Seizures
  - Mental status changes
  - Decreased alertness, stupor/coma

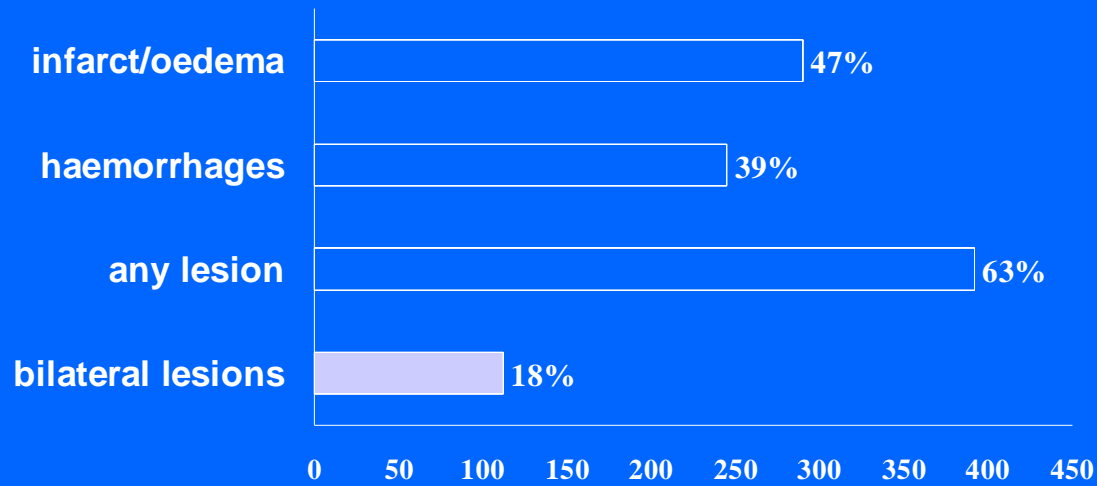
# CVT: LESS COMMON PRESENTING SYNDROMES

- Cavernous sinus syndrome
- Clustering TIAs
- Subarachnoid haemorrhage
  - Generalised, basal
  - Localised, convexity
- Pulsating tinnitus
- Cranial nerve palsies
  - VII
  - Collet-Sicard syndrome

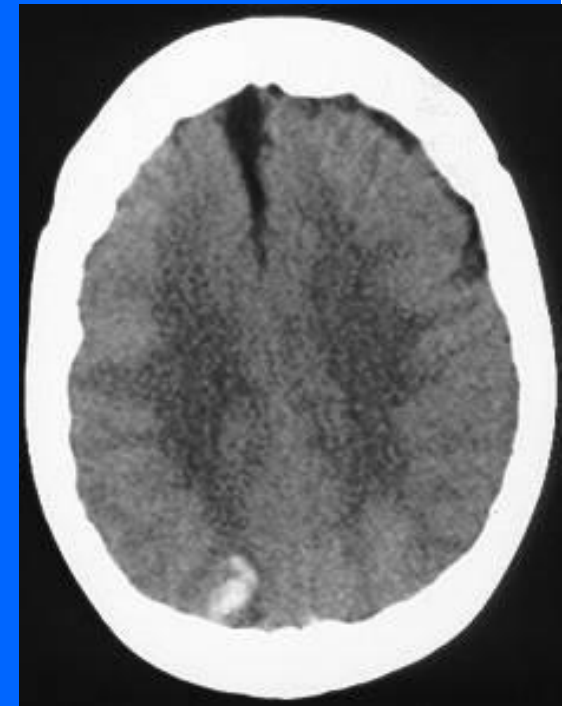
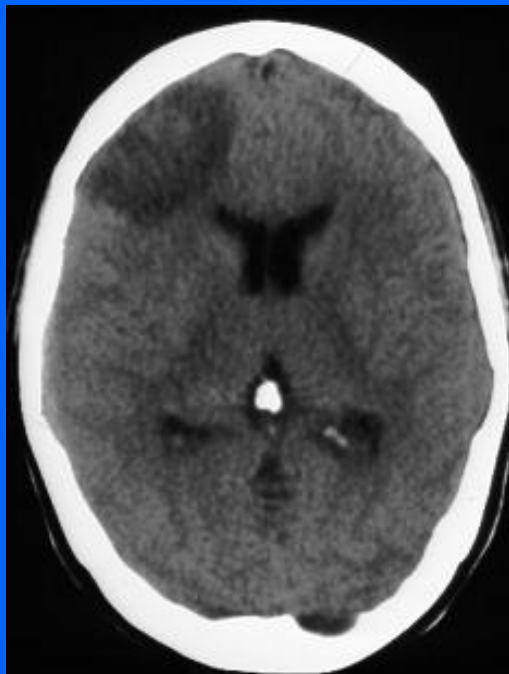
# CVT: PRESENTING SYMPTOMS & SYNDROMES

- Variable with:
  - Interval onset-presentation
  - Age of the patient
  - Gender of the patient
  - Location of vein or sinus occlusion
  - Parenchymal lesions
  - Underlying disease

# CVT: PARENCHYMAL LESIONS

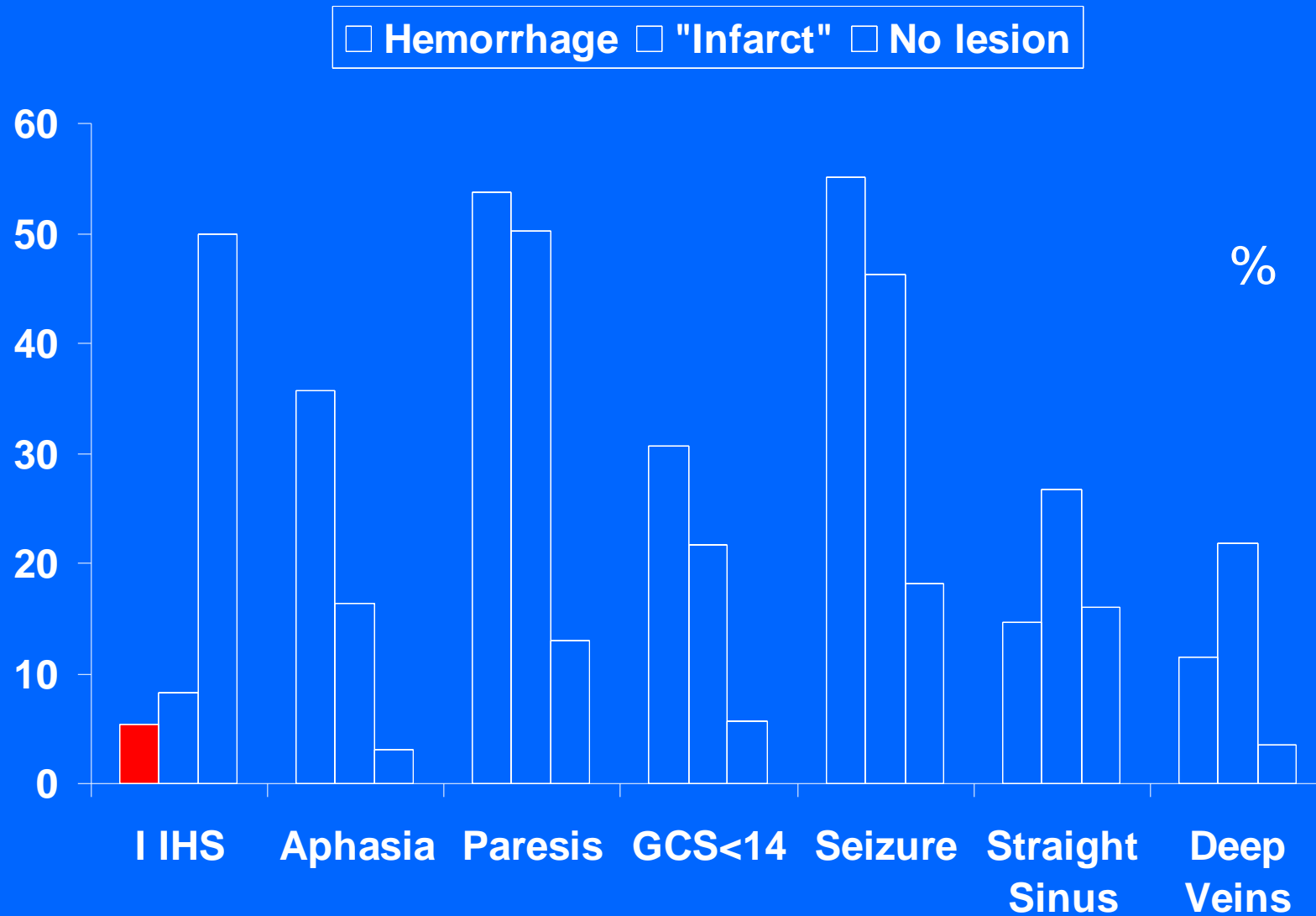


*ISCVT, 2004*

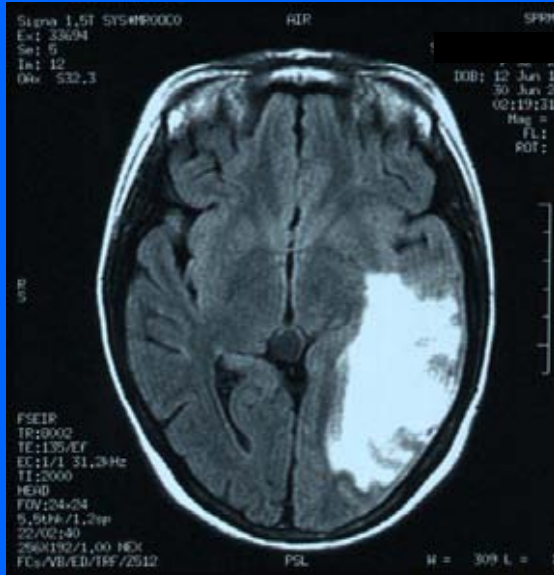




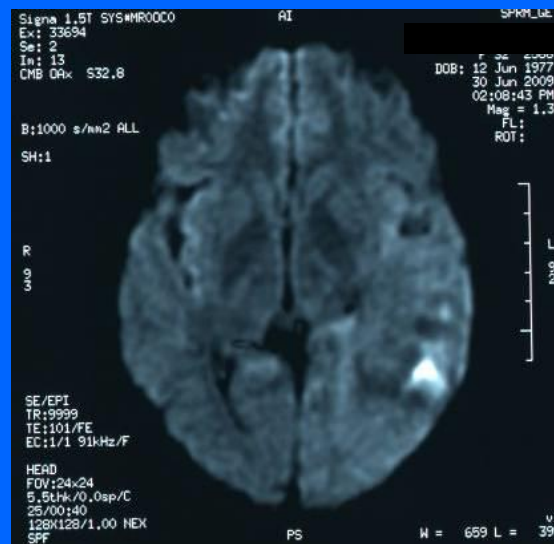
# CVT: PARENCHYMAL LESIONS



# VENOUS "INFARCTS"



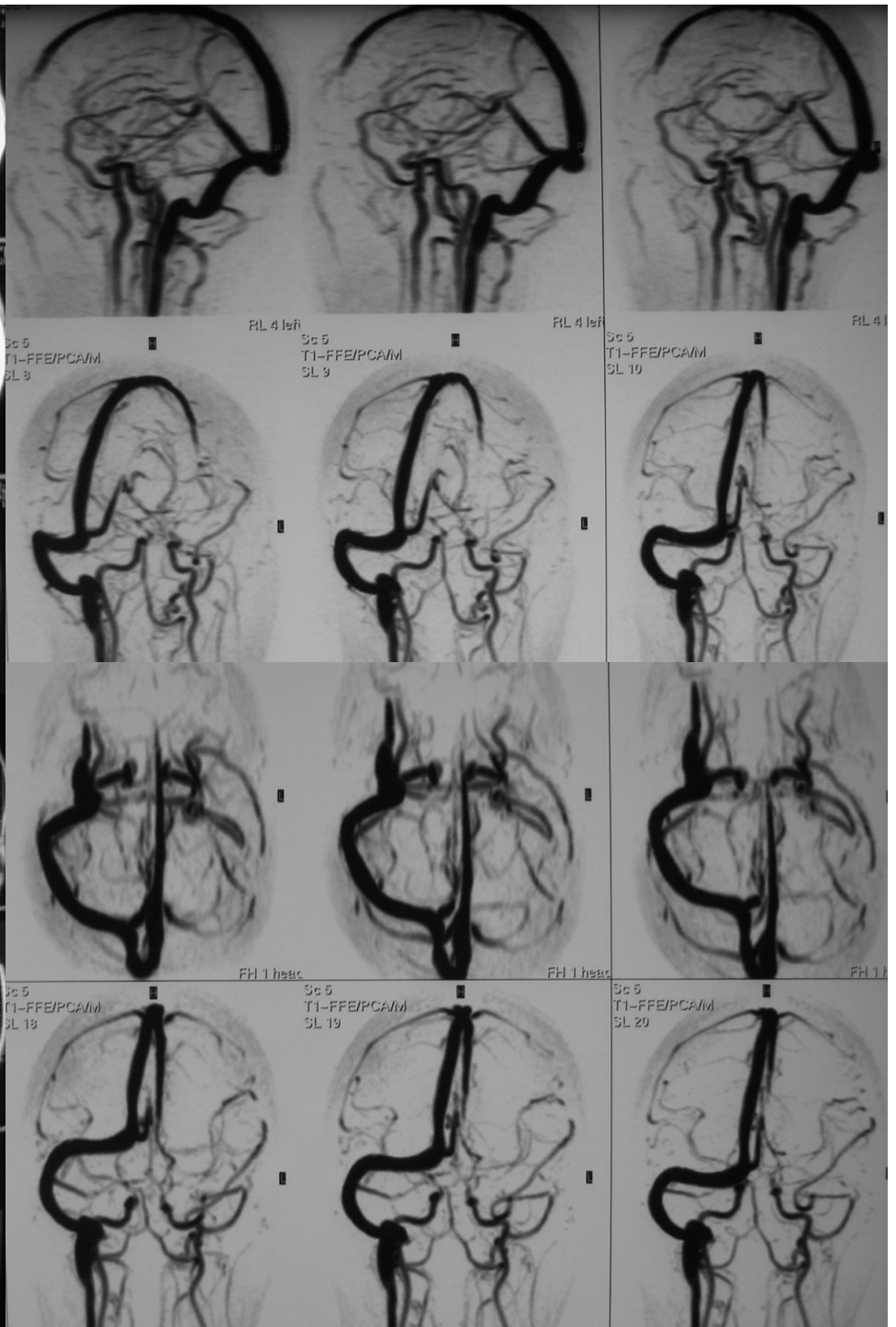
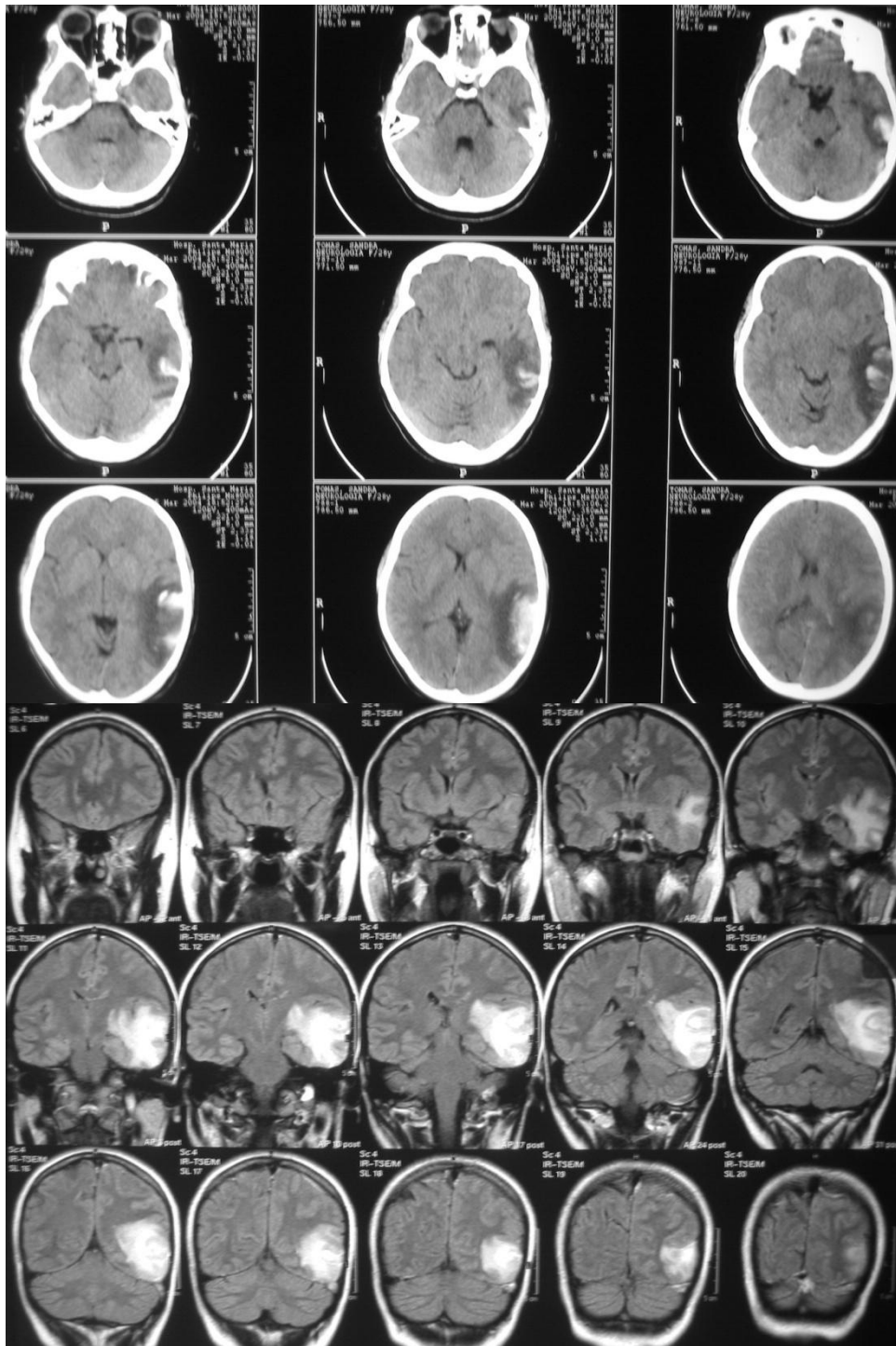
FLAIR



DWI



ADC



# CVT DIAGNOSIS: CT, MRI & VENOGRAPHY

- CT
  - Low sensitivity
  - Moderate specificity of “typical” signs
- MR
  - T1 isointense and T2 hypointense thrombus in the 1st four days

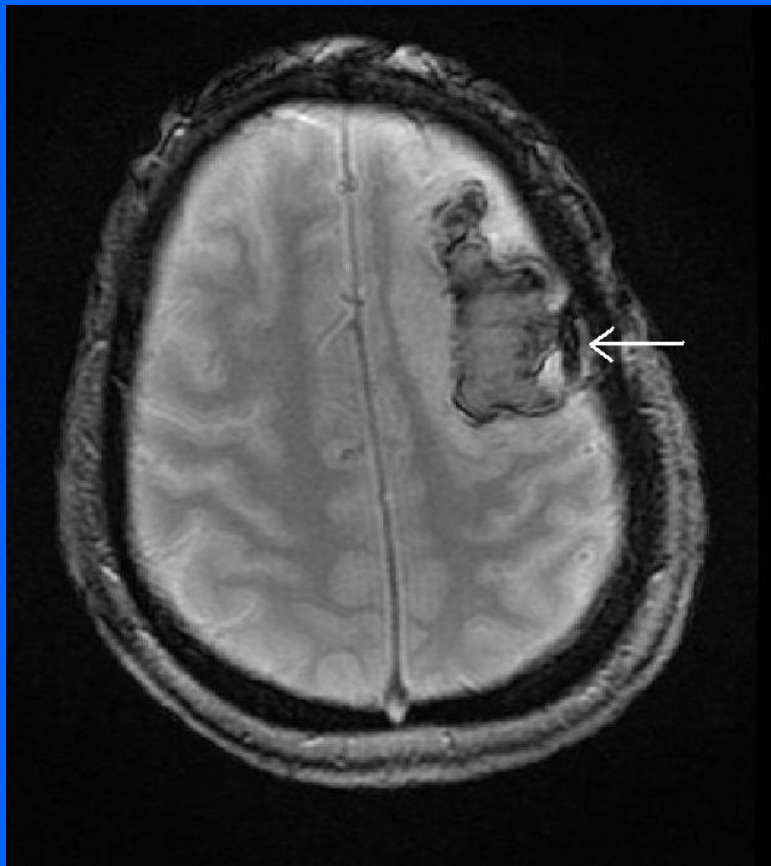


# CVT DIAGNOSIS: CT, MRI & VENOGRAPHY

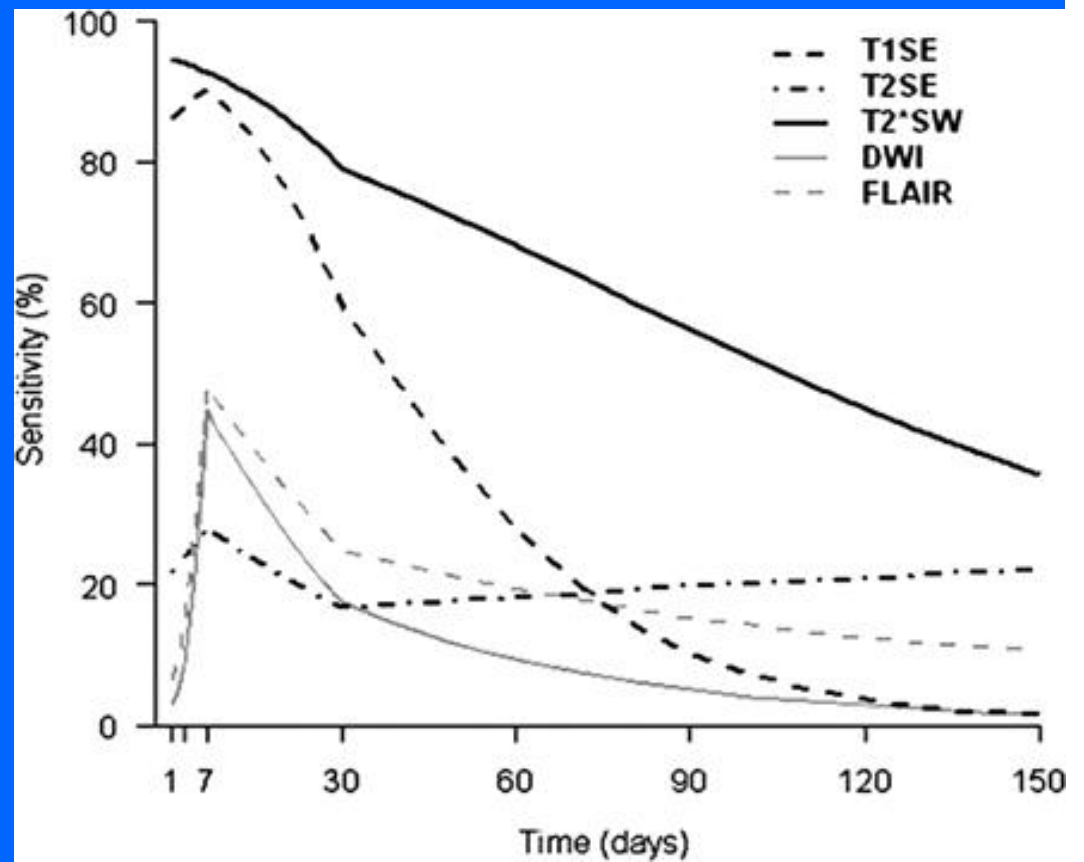
- MR Venography
  - Limited spatial resolution
  - Saturation of flow signal
- CT Venography
- IA Venography
  - Hypoplasia vs. Occlusion
  - High anatomical variability



# DIAGNOSIS: MR SEQUENCES



**T2\*SW**



# TVC: D-DIMERS

- Are DD < 500 ng/mL a good screening test for CVT?
  - Meta-analysis of 14 studies with 1134 patients \*\*
    - Sensitivity 93.9%; specificity 89.7%
    - Risk factors for false negative D-Dimers
      - Isolated headache
      - Limited extent of CVT
      - Longer duration of symptoms
  - Ongoing M Arnold's study
    - D-dimers; FXIII-AP

# THE “CAUSES” OF CVT

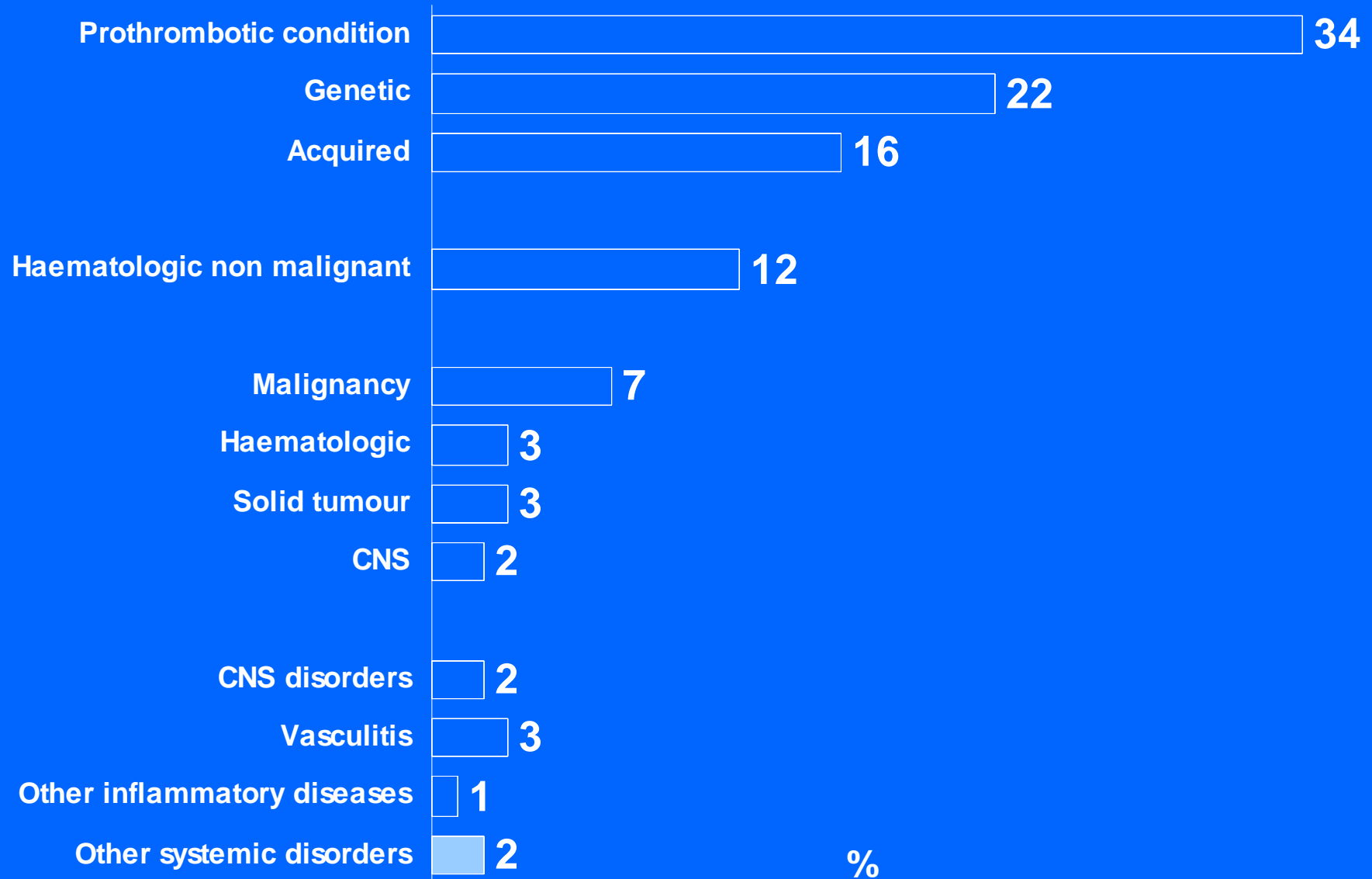
- **Associated conditions**
  - Condition found in association with CVT
- **Risk factors**
  - Condition that increases the risk of CVT
- **Cause**
  - Causality requests are fulfilled
    - Necessary
    - Sufficient
    - *Contributory*



# CVT ASSOCIATED CONDITIONS

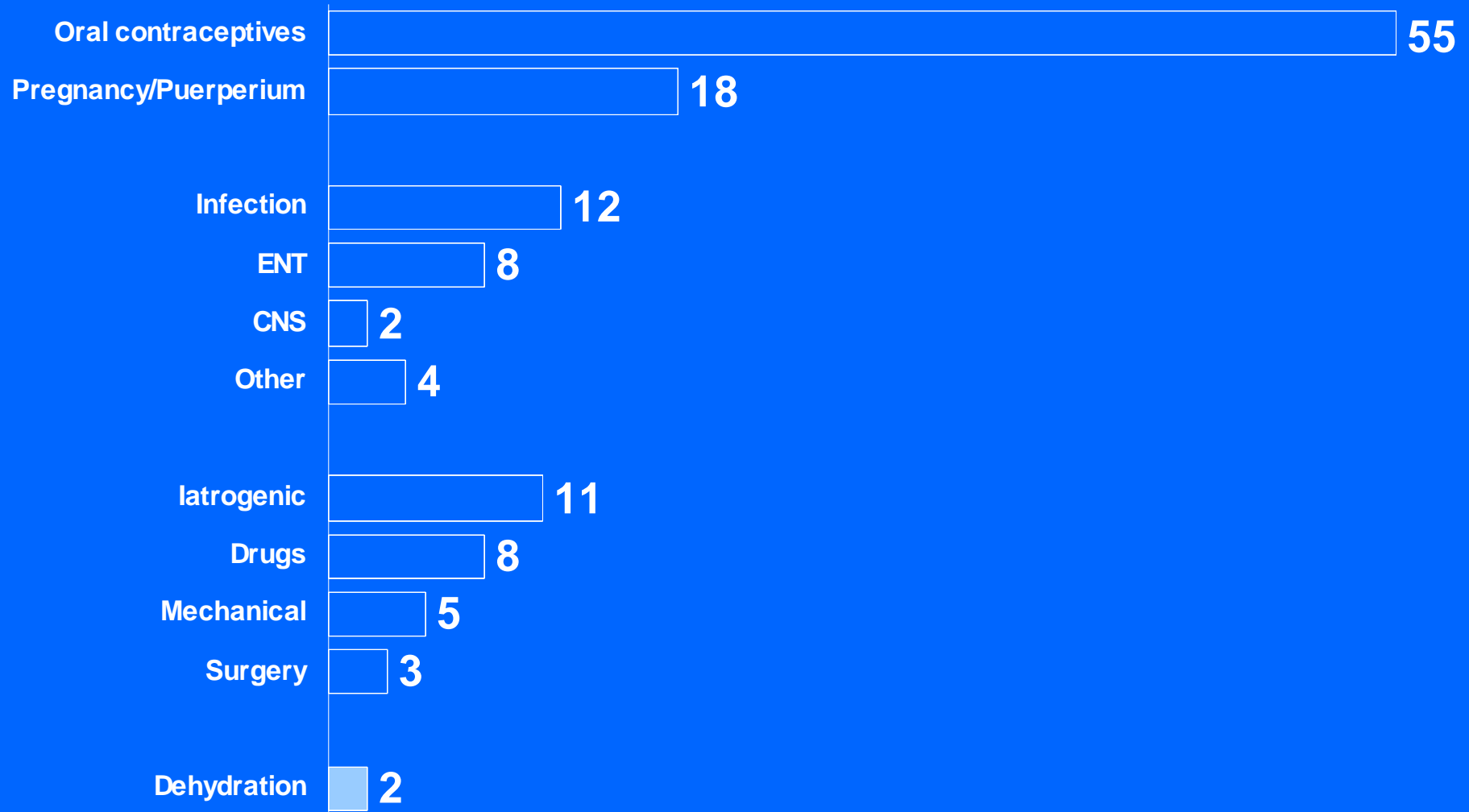
- **Permanent**
  - Hereditary thrombophilia
  - Chronic conditions associated with a prothrombotic state (e.g. APS, malignancy)
- **Transient**
  - Oral contraceptives
  - Pregnancy/puerperium
  - Infections
- **Both permanent and transient**
- **None** (cryptogenic CVT)

# CVT: ASSOCIATED CONDITIONS PERMANENT

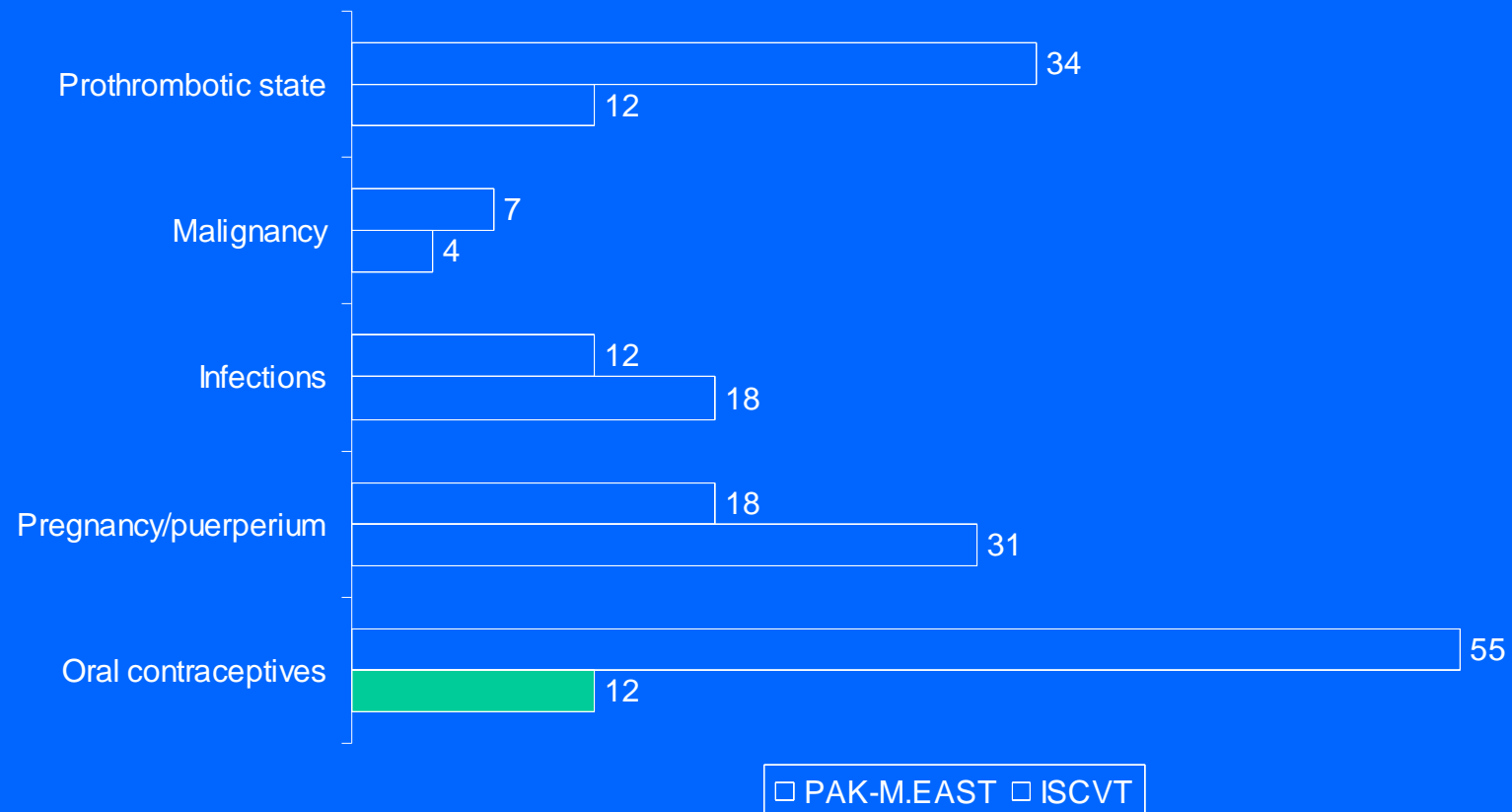


*ISCVT, Stroke, 2004*

# CVT: ASSOCIATED CONDITIONS TRANSIENT



# CVT: ASSOCIATED CONDITIONS IN A PAKISTAN-MIDDLE EAST COHORT



# CONTRACEPTIVES (54%)

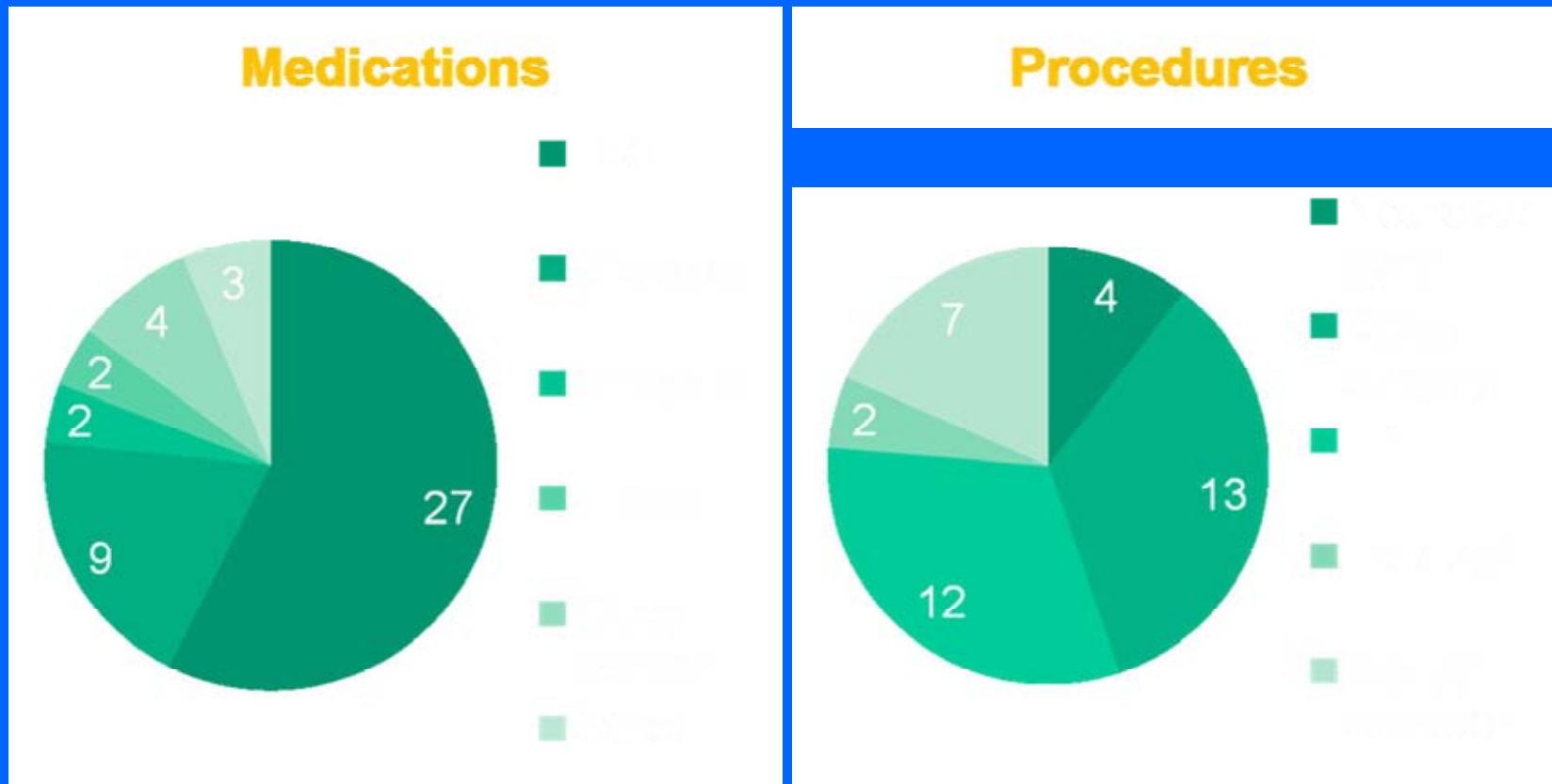
Estrogens	OR	5.59
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	CVT	IR/100000/y	IRR
Levonorgestrel	2	0.7	1.0
Norgestimate	7	1.6	2.4
Desogestrel	5	2.7	4.0
Contraceptive patch	0	0	----

# OTHER GENDER SPECIFIC CAUSES

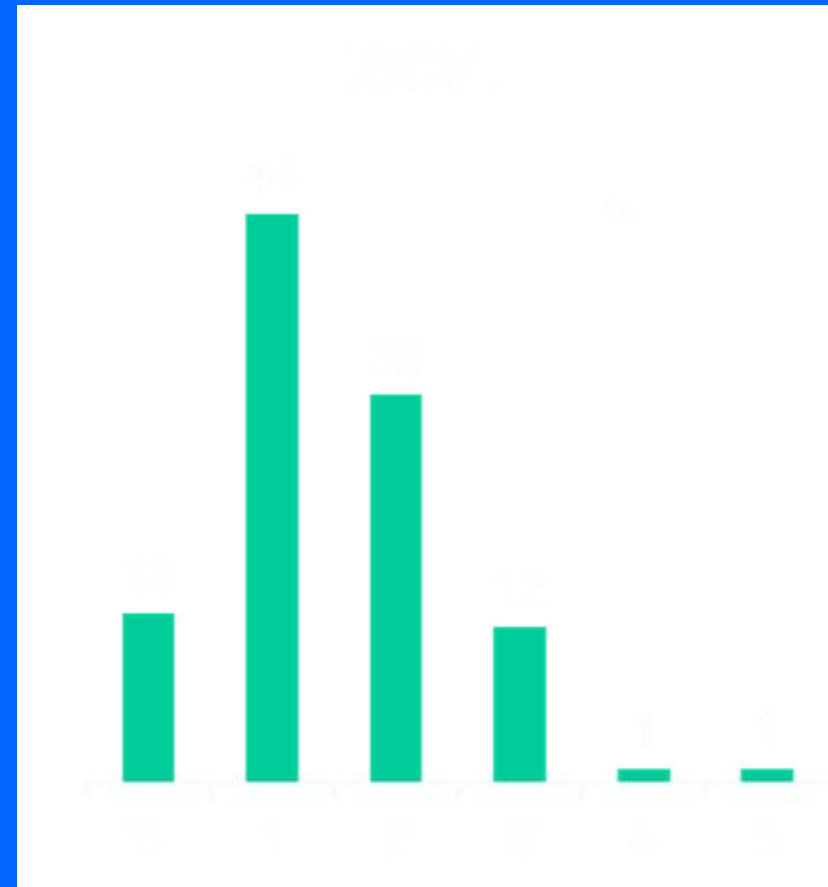
- Vaginal rings
  - Case reports
- Emergency (day after) contraception
  - Case report
- In-vitro fertilization
  - Case report
- Hormonal replacement therapy

# IATROGENIC CVT: ISCVT (11%)



# CVT ASSOCIATED CONDITIONS

- 13% no associated condition
- 44% > 1 associated condition
  - 41% - genetic prothrombotic mutation



N° associated conditions



# CVT: PROTHROMBOTIC MUTATIONS IN ADULTS

- Prothrombin G20210A 5.5 x
- Factor V Leiden 2.4 x
- MTHFR C677T 0.94 x
- PAI-1 0.93 x
- Protein Z/G79A 1.34 x
- JK-2/V617 not estimable

# THROMBOPHILIA SCREENING

- Lupus anticoagulant
- Anticardiolipine antibodies
- Anti- $\beta_2$  glycoprotein antibodies
- Homocystinemia
- Protein S
- Protein C
- Antithrombin
- Factor V Leiden mutation
- Prothombin G20210A mutation
- Factor VIII

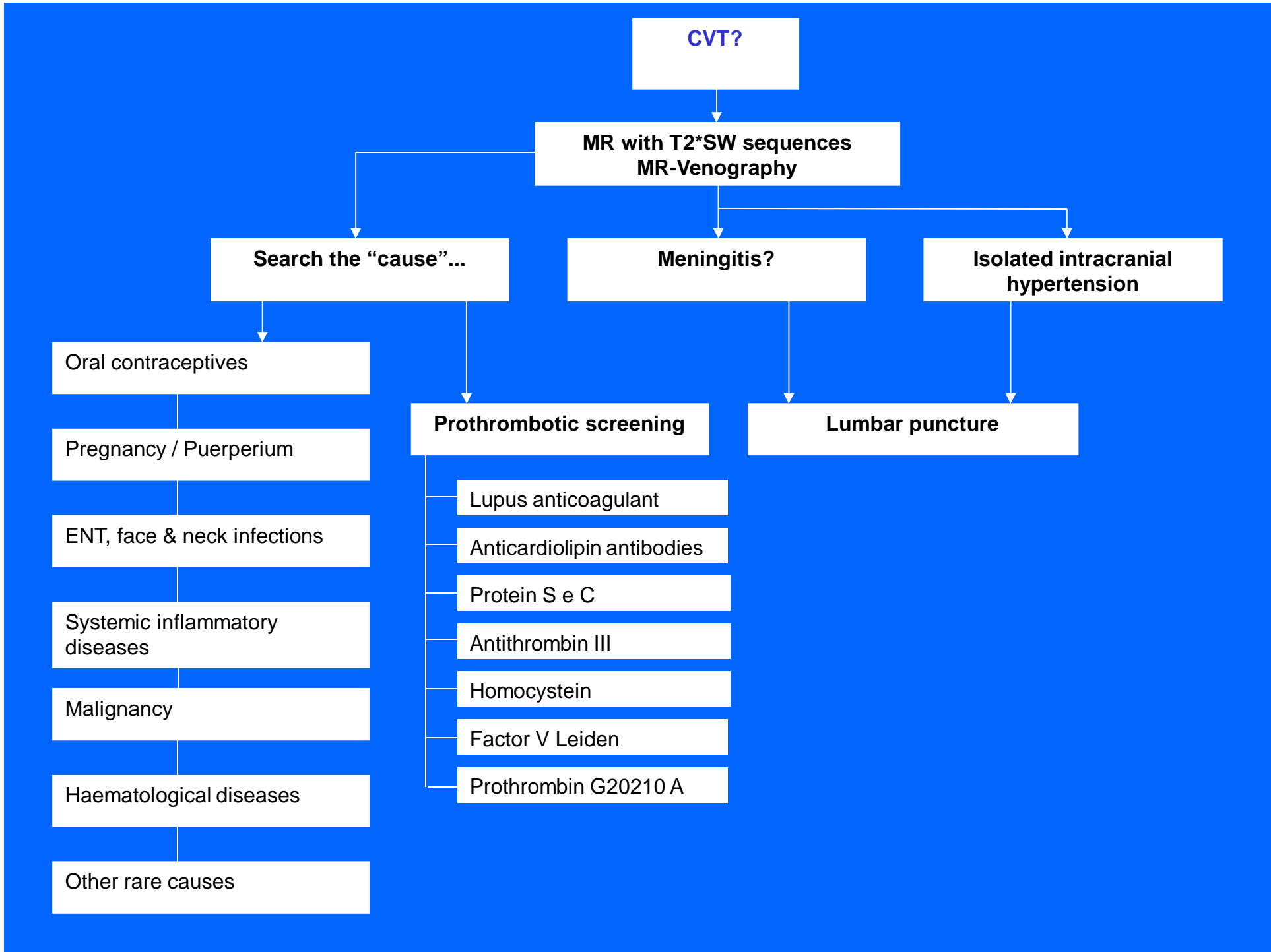
# CVT: SCREENING FOR THROMBOPHILIA

- International Consensus Statement Guidelines (2005)
  - 1st VTE, VTE < 50 years, only risk factor oral contraceptives or pregnancy, recurrent VTE
- AHA/ASA Guidelines (2011)
  - Screening is recommended
    - in adults (Class I, level C)
    - In children (Class IIb, level B)

# THROMBOPHILIA SCREENING

## operational aspects

- Protein S, C and antithrombin deficiencies
  - After at least 6 weeks after the acute phase
  - Not in patients on vitamin K antagonists
  - Confirmed with repeated testing
- APS
  - High titers of lupus anticoagulant, anticardiolipin antibody IgG or anti-β<sub>2</sub>-glycoprotein IgG
  - At least 2 occasions 12 weeks apart



CVT?

MR with T2\*SW sequences  
MR-Venography

Search the "cause"...

Meningitis?

Isolated intracranial  
hypertension

Oral contraceptives

Pregnancy / Puerperium

ENT, face & neck infections

Systemic inflammatory  
diseases

Malignancy

Haematological diseases

Other rare causes

Prothrombotic screening

Lupus anticoagulant

Anticardiolipin antibodies

Protein S e C

Antithrombin III

Homocystein

Factor V Leiden

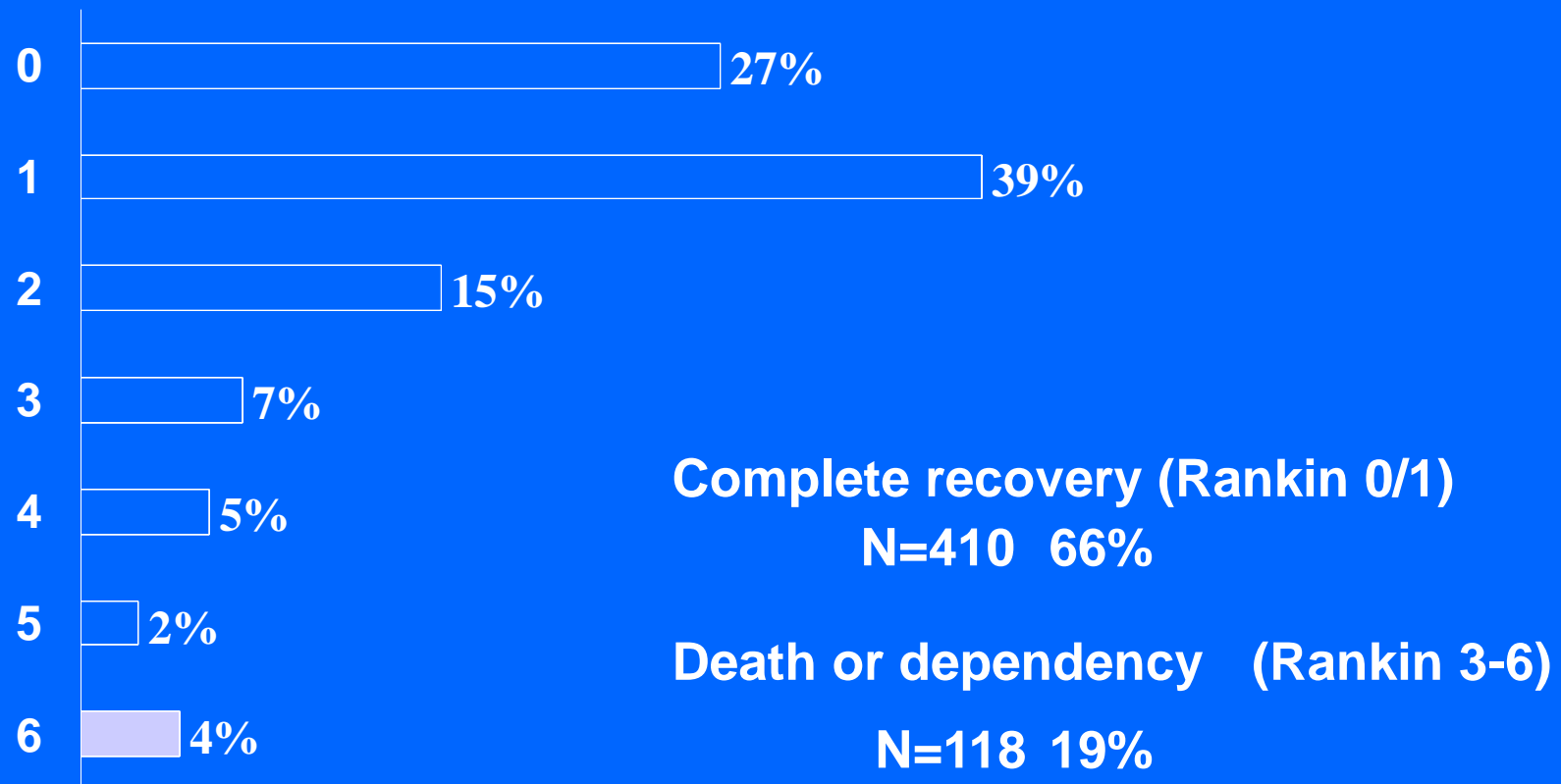
Prothrombin G20210 A

Lumbar puncture

# CRYPTOGENIC CVT?

- 13% in ISCVT, 88% with complete prothrombotic screening
- CVT preceding a systemic disease
  - Anti-phospholip syndrome
  - Essential thrombocythemia and polycythemia
  - Inflammatory diseases (IBD, B'D)
  - Malignancy

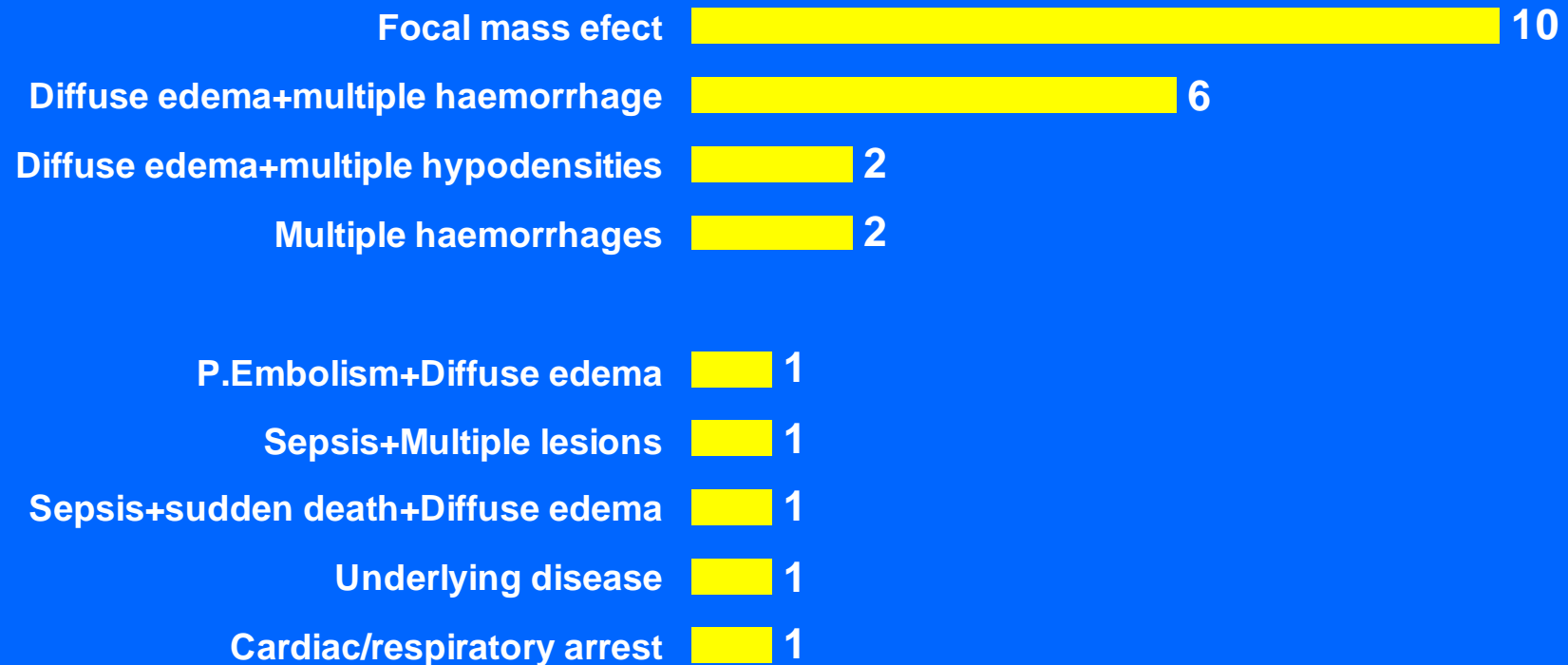
# CVT: ACUTE PROGNOSIS





# MECHANISMS OF DEATH

## Transtentorial herniation





# CVT OUTCOME

DEATH OR DEPENDENCY AT THE END OF THE FOLLOW-UP: DATA FROM PROSPECTIVE STUDIES WITH LONG-TERM FOLLOW UP

Study	Follow-up Mean time (months)	Death/dependency yes/no	%	95% CI	Weight%
Rondepierre	6	8/18	44,4	24,6 - 66,3	1.9
Preter	78	18/85	21,2	13,8 - 31,0	9.1
DeBruijn	19	11/55	20	11,6 - 32,4	5.9
VENOPORT	22	8/91	8,8	4,5 - 16,4	9.7
Breteau	36	10/55	18,2	10,2 - 30,3	5.9
Cakmak	3	2/16	12,5	3,5 - 36,0	1.7
ISCVT	18	84/616	13,6	11,2 - 16,6	65.8
<b>Total</b>		<b>141/936</b>	<b>15,1</b>	<b>12,9 - 17,5</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Wasay	6	18/79	22.8	14.6 - 33.8	
Narayan	33	143/428	33.4	29.1 - 30.1	

# LAST FOLLOW UP DEATH/DEPENDENCY (n=32)

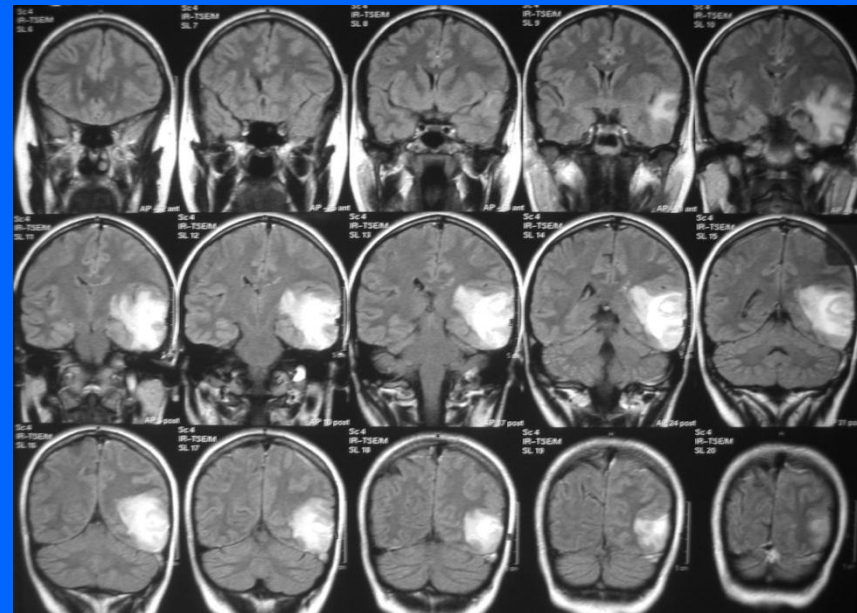
<u>PROGNOSTIC FACTOR</u>	<u>HR</u>	<u>95%CI</u>
CNS infection	3.3	2.0-17.2
Any malignancy	2.9	1.6-5.1
Deep venous system thrombosis	2.9	1.7-5.0
Haemorrhage on CT/MR	1.9	1.2-3.0
GCS score <9	2.6	1.4-4.6
Mental status disorder	2.0	1.2-3.1
Age > 37	2.0	1.2-3.3
Male gender	1.6	1.0-2.5

Accuracy: 85% area under the ROC curve 0.79

# CVT PROGNOSIS

- Prognostic scale
  - Malignancy 2
  - Thrombosis of the deep venous system 2
  - Coma 2
  - Mental status dist. 1
  - IC haemorrhage 1
  - Male gender 1

Women 38 years, oral  
contraceptives, alert, aphasia  
lateral sinus and jugular vein



Score: 1/9 – good prognosis

# ANTI-THROMBOTIC TREATMENT

## Meta-analysis of heparin trials

Einhaupl et al, 1991; IV heparin, 20 patients

De Bruijn et al, 1999; nadroparin, 59 patients

2 trials excluded: Nagaraja, 1995; Maiti, 1997

	Relative risk	95% CI
Death	0.33	0.08 - 1.21
Death or dependency	0.46	0.16 - 1.31
Absolute risk reduction for death or dependency		13%
<i>Including excluded trials</i>		
Death	0.33	0.14 - 0.78

# CVT: COMPLICATIONS OF HEPARIN TREATMENT

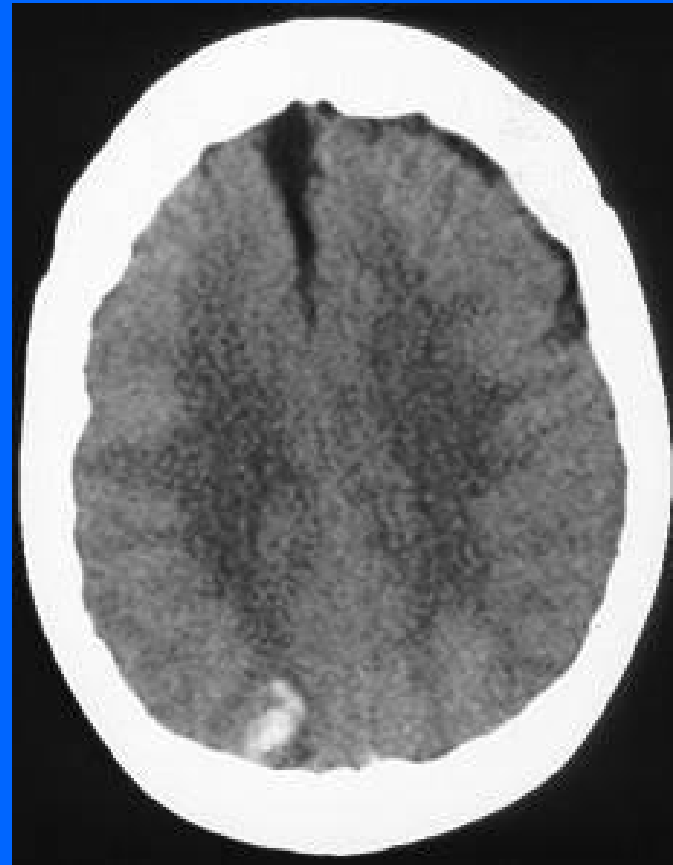
- Low risk of intracranial haemorrhage (8%)
- Low risk of systemic haemorrhage (1.8%)
- Such haemorrhages do not influence outcome
  
- Safe to use in patients with intracranial haemorrhages, either intracerebral or subarachnoid

# ANTICOAGULATION IN THE ACUTE PHASE

- EFNS Guideline (2010)
  - Patients with CVT without contraindications for anticoagulation should be treated either with body weight adjusted LMWH or adjusted dose IV heparin – *Level B*
- AHA/ASA Guideline (2011)
  - Initial anticoagulation with adjusted dose UFH or LMWH is reasonable - *Class IIa, level of evidence B*

# ANTICOAGULATION IN THE ACUTE PHASE

- EFNS Guideline (2010)
- AHA/ASA Guideline (2011)
  - Intracerebral hemorrhage is not a contraindication for anticoagulation

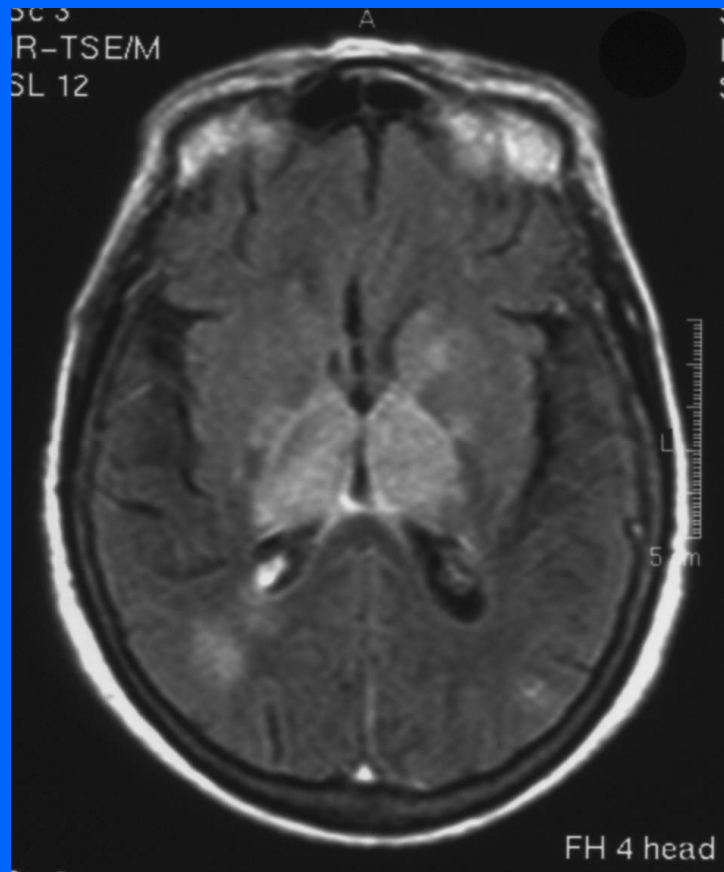


# IV UFH or LMW Heparin?

- ISCVT\*
  - LMW Heparin - 119 (28%) vs IV heparin – 302 (72%)
  - In favour of LMWH (after adjusting for prognostic factors)
    - More patients independent at 6 months
      - OR 2.4 (95% CI 1.0 to 5.7)
    - Less new intracerebral hemorrhages
      - OR 0.29 (95% CI 0.07 to 1.3)
  - No difference in complete recovery and mortality
- RCT in India
  - 32 IV heparin vs 34 LMWH
  - Death – 6 vs 0, Complete recovery – 20 vs 30
- **LMWH seems preferable over IV UF heparin**

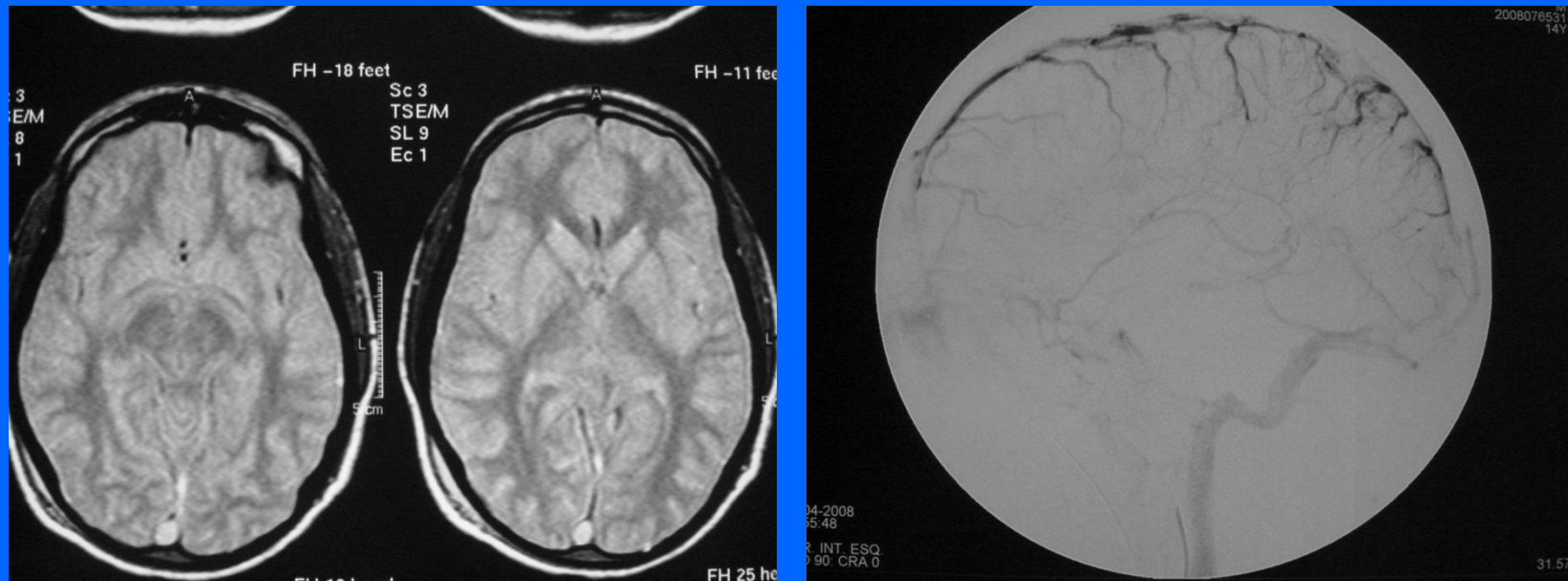


# LOCAL THROMBOLYSIS IN CVT



14 year old boy with nephrotic syndrome treated with steroids and cyclosporine. Headache, coma and seizures

# LOCAL THROMBOLYSIS IN CVT

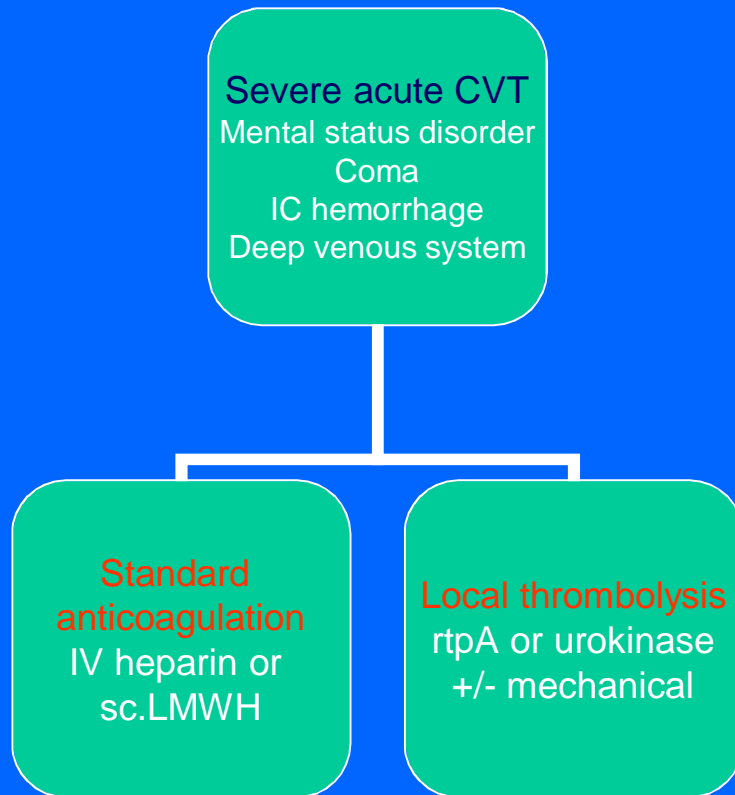


Total recovery after being treated with local IV rtPA

# THROMBOLYSIS IN CVT SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

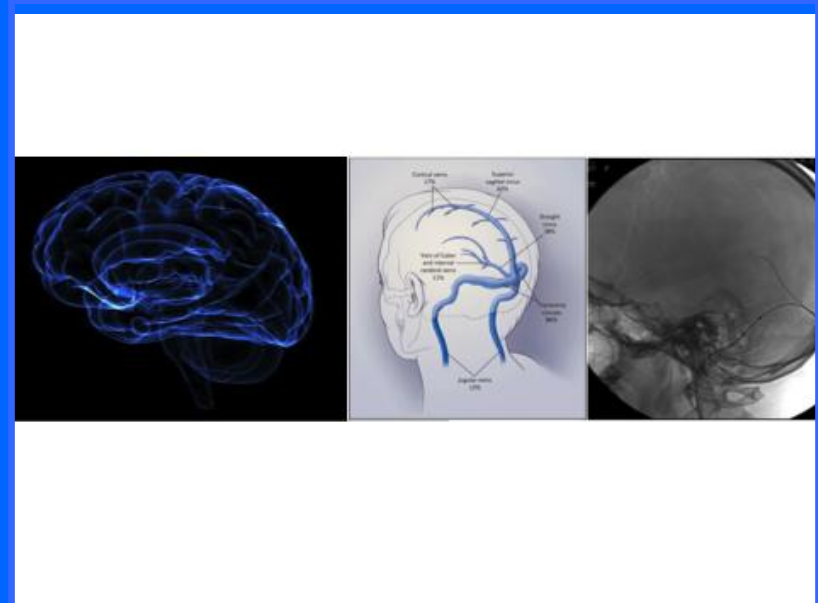
- No RCT
- 15 studies (14 local, 1 systemic), 156 patients
- Death – 12 patients (9.2%)
- Major bleeding complications – 15 (9.8%)
  - Intracranial hemorrhages – 12 (7.6%)
  - Fatal intracranial hemorrhages - 7 (58.3%)
- Thrombolysis in CVT is associated with a non-negligible incidence of major bleeding complications

# TO-ACT TRIAL



PRIMARY ENDPOINT – mRS at 12 months  
Safety endpoints – intra & extracranial bleedings

Sample size: 164 pt



Status September 2013

Centers -11

Countries – 2 (+3)

Included patients - 22

# TVC: LOCAL IV THROMBOLYSIS

- Efficacy and safety may be less favourable in current practice than reported in publications
- Still an experimental treatment
- Must be reserved for patients in severe condition, diffuse brain edema, bilateral thrombosis of the deep venous system or worsening despite medical treatment
- Include patients in the TO- ACT trial

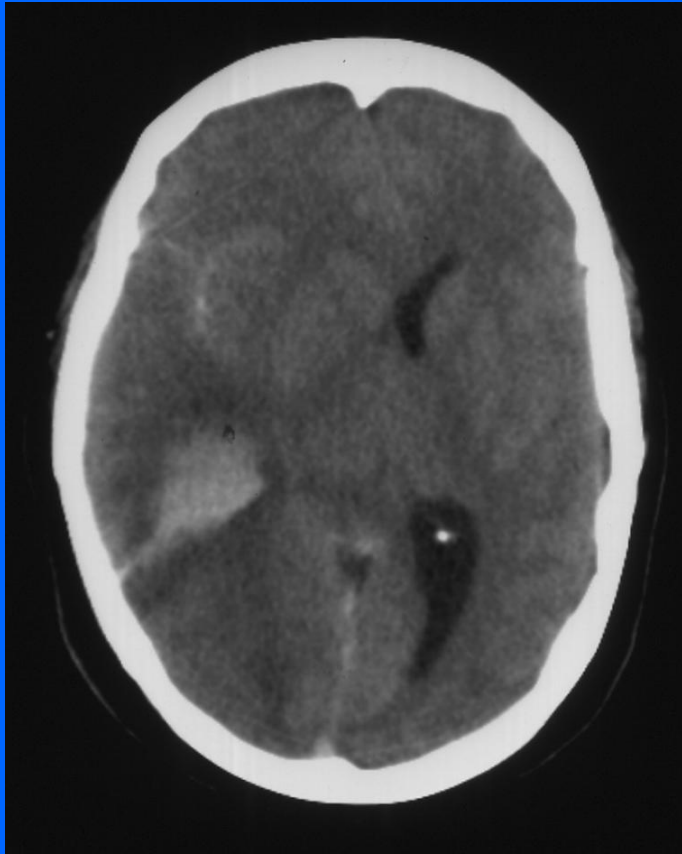
# TREATMENT OF INTRACRANIAL HIPERTENSION

- Medical
  - Lumbar punctures
  - Osmotherapy (mannitol, glycerol)
  - Corticosteroids (no)
  - Diuretics (furosemide, acetazolamide)
- Intensive
  - Sedation, ventilation
- Surgical
  - Hemicraniectomy
  - Haematoma evacuation
  - Shunt (external, ventricular, lumbar)
  - Optic nerve fenestration

# ARE STEROIDS USEFUL?

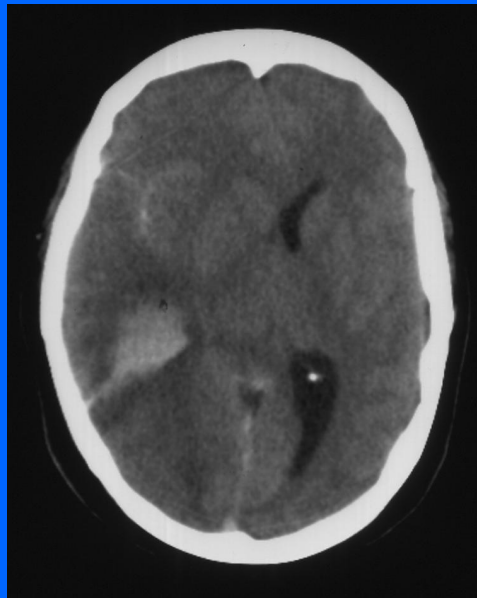
- Whole ISCVT cohort
  - no effect on outcome OR=1.5 95%CI=0.9-2.4
- Case-control design matched by prognostic factors
  - no effect on outcome OR=1.7 95%CI=0.9-33.3
- Stratification by n<sup>o</sup> of prognostic factors
  - No difference in any strata
- Sensitivity analysis by underlying condition
  - Similar results

# HEMICRANIECTOMY IN CVT



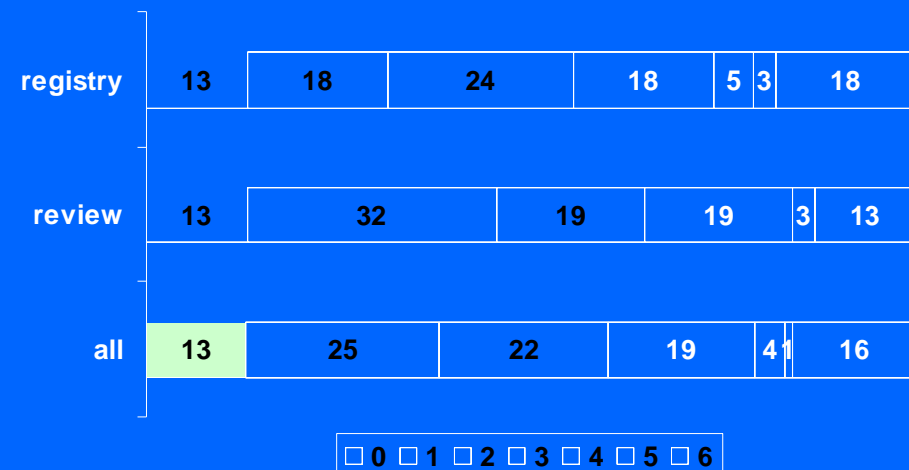


# DECOMPRESSIVE SURGERY



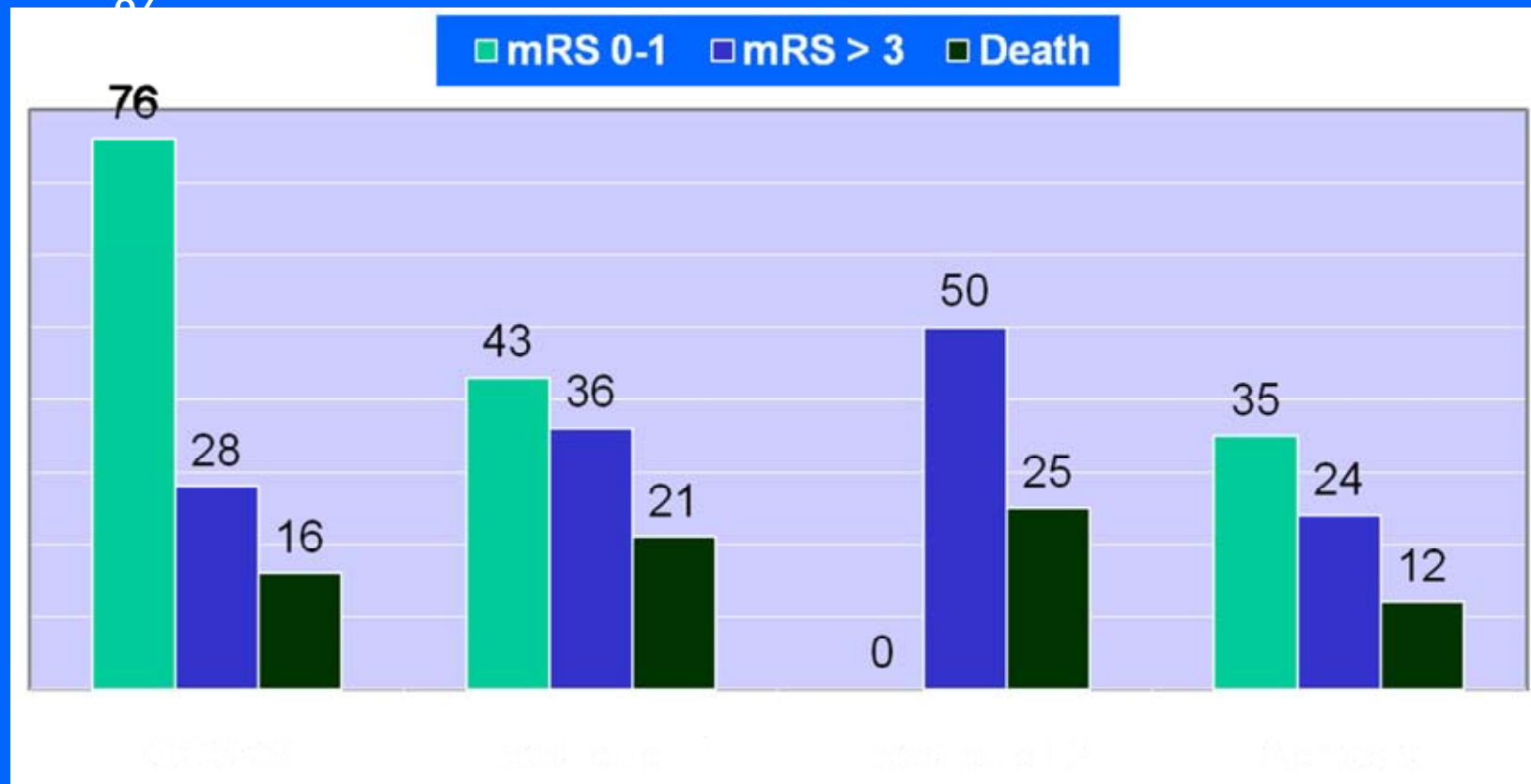
Retrospective registry - 38

Systematic review - 31



In CVT patients with large brain lesions causing herniation, decompressive surgery was life-saving and often results in good functional outcome, even in pts. with severe clinical conditions

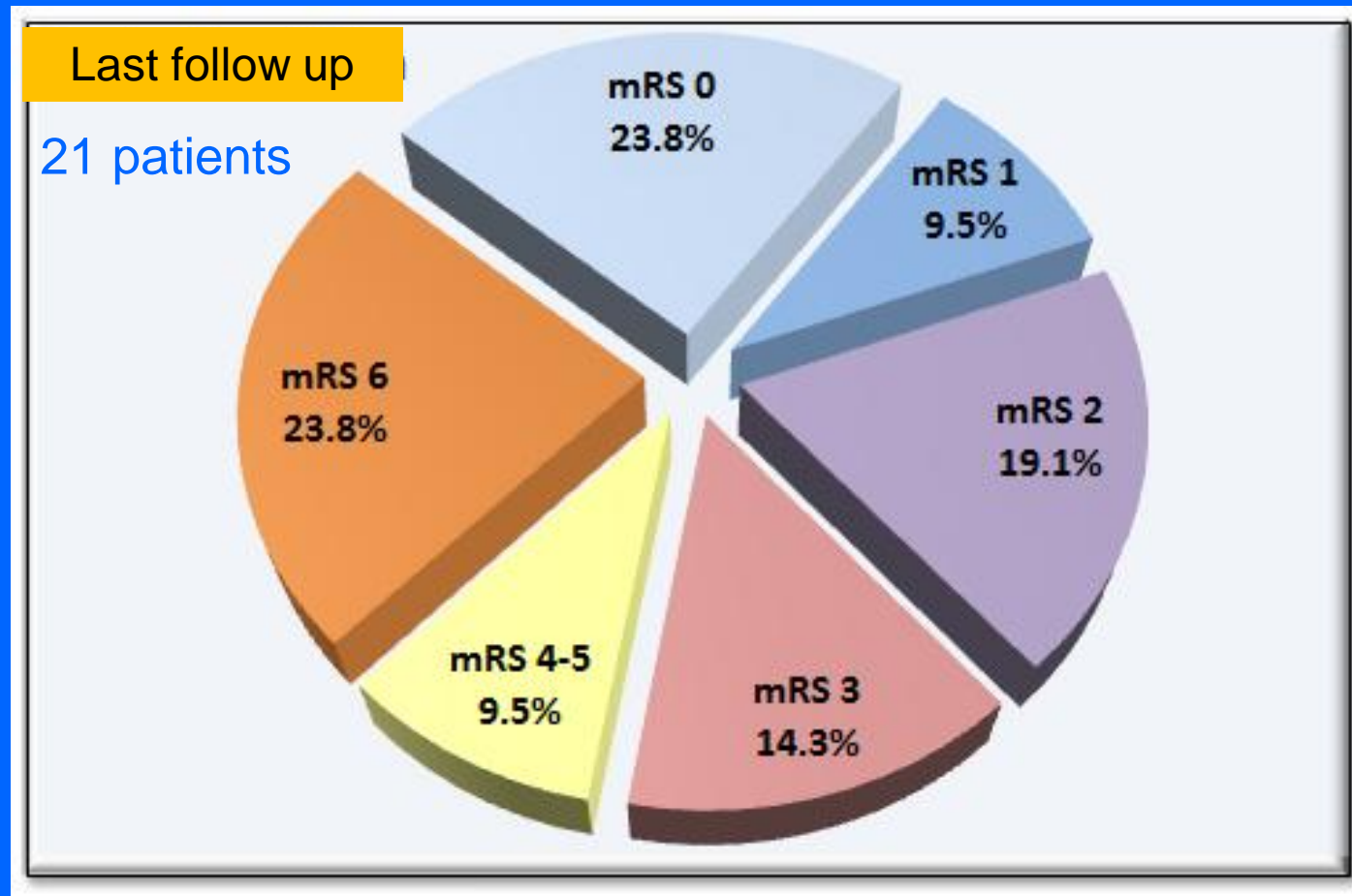
# DECOMPRESSIVE SURGERY



# DECOMPRESSIVE SURGERY

- Amsterdam (2006-2010) - 10 patients
  - Deaths - 2
    - edema, enlarging hemorrhagic infarcts
  - mRS 5 - 1
  - mRS 0-1 - 5
- Bangalore (2006-2008) – 34 patients
  - Deaths - 6
  - mRS 5 - none
  - mRS 0-1 - 28

# SHUNTING



Shunting does not prevent death or severe disability

# ANTIEPILEPTICS AND EARLY SEIZURES

- ~30% have seizures from day 0-15
- Risk of status epilepticus
- Risk of death, including sudden death
- More likely to occur in patients with
  - Presenting seizures
  - Parenchymal lesions (infarcts or hemorrhages)

# ANTIEPILEPTICS AND EARLY SEIZURES

- No supratentorial lesion, no presenting seizure
  - No AEs 197 early seizure 5 (2.5%)
  - AEs 11 early seizure 0
- No supratentorial lesion, presenting seizure
  - No AEs 14 early seizure 1 (7.1%)
  - AEs 35 early seizure 0
- Supratentorial lesion, no presenting seizure
  - No AEs 134 early seizure 11 (8.2%)  
OR=0.3
  - AEs 35 early seizure 1 (2.9%)
- Supratentorial lesion, presenting seizure
  - No AEs 47 early seizure 24 (51.0%)  
OR=0.006
  - AEs 148 early seizure 1 (0.7%)

# CVT: ANTIEPILEPTICS

- EFNS guideline 2010
  - AED in patients with focal neurological defects and supratentorial lesions (GPP)
- AHA/ASA (2011)
  - routine use of AED is not indicated to prevent seizures (III, C)
  - single seizure with parenchymal lesions (I, B)
  - single seizure without parenchymal lesions (IIa, C)
- Optimal duration of treatment is unknown
  - Use general rules for AED selection and discontinuation

# EVENTS DURING FOLLOW UP

EVENT	n	%
• <b>Death</b>	25	4.0
– related to the underlying condition	11	
• <b>Recurrent sinus thrombosis</b>	14	2.2
• <b>Other thrombotic events</b>	27	4.3
– deep venous thrombosis	16	2.5
– pulmonary embolism	3	0.5
– stroke	2	0.3
– TIA	2	0.3
– acute limb ischemia	4	0.7
• <b>Seizures</b>	66	10.6
• <b>Severe headache</b>	88	14.1
• <b>Severe visual loss</b>	4	0.6



# HEADACHES

- Mostly primary headaches, unrelated to CVT
- If severe or persistent
  - MR or CT venography
  - Compare with previous venography
- Management
  - Paracetamol
  - Acetazolamide
  - Lumbar punctures
  - Shunt (ventricular, lumbar)

# RISK OF REMOTE SEIZURES

- 67 (10.7%) had remote (> 2 weeks after diagnosis) seizures
  - Until 6 month: 36
  - Until 1 year: 55
  - Until 2 year: 66
  - > 1 seizure (epilepsy): 29 (4.6%)
- Risk factors for remote seizures
  - IC haemorrhage (HR=2.62), early seizure (HR=2.42), paresis (HR=2.22)
- Risk factors for epilepsy
  - IC haemorrhage (OR=6.76), early seizure (OR=3.99), paresis (OR=2.75)

# PREVENTION OF RECURRENT VENOUS THROMBOEMBOLISM

- Risk of recurrence of venous thrombotic events
  - CVT: 2-12%
    - 0.5-1.5 per 100 person-years
  - Other VT: 7-15%
    - 2.0-4.1 per 100 person-years
- Risk factors for recurrence of venous thrombotic events in adults
  - Male gender
  - Polycythemia/thrombocythemia
  - Severe thrombophilia (DVT and PE)
  - Previous VTE
- EFNS and AHA/ASA Guidelines
  - 3 months (transient risk factors) to lifetime, depending on thrombophilia grading
- International survey
  - 3 months -13%
  - 6 months – 64%
  - 12 months – 20%

# SEVERITY OF THROMBOPHILIA & RECURRENT VTE

- Antiphospholip antibody syndrome
- Cancer
- High D dimers (?) after discontinuation of anticoagulation

Thrombophilic defect	Annual risk of first DVT	Relative risk (compared to community controls)	Risk of recurrence
Antithrombin deficiency Protein C deficiency Protein S deficiency	1.52-1.90%	15-19x	At 5 yrs – 40% At 10 yrs – 55%
Factor V Leiden Prothrombin 20210A High FVIII	0.34-0.49%	3-5x	At 5 yrs – 11% At 10 yrs – 25%
High FIX High FXI High TAFI Hyperhomocysteinemia	Not independent risk factors for venous thrombosis. Risk associated with high FVIII		

# PREVENTION OF RECURRENT VENOUS THROMBOEMBOLISM

- CVT related to a transient risk factor – 3 or 3-6 months
- CVT idiopathic or related to “mild” thrombophilia – 6-12
- CVT related to “combined”, “severe” thrombophilia or recurrent CVT– permanent
- **EFNS guideline** (Eur J Neurol 2010)
  - Good practice point
- **AHA/ASA guideline** (Stroke 2011)
  - Class IIb, level of evidence C

# EX-COA TRIAL

## clustered randomised trial

AC POLICY

3-6 MONTHS

12 MONTHS

EXCLUSIONS

12 MONTHS TREATMENT

24 MONTHS FOLLOW UP

PRIMARY EFFICACY OUTCOME

FATAL OR NONFATAL VTE

SAFETY OUTCOMES: BLEEDINGS, ALL DEATHS

# CVT: GOOD POINTS FOR CLINICAL PRACTICE

- High suspicion rate
- Confirm diagnosis by MR/MR angio
- Prothombotic screening in all patients
- Anticoagulants for almost all patients in the acute phase
- Hemicraniectomy or local thrombolysis in selected severe cases
- Antiepileptic drugs for patients with seizures and supratentorial lesions
- Join ongoing registries and trials