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Successful intravenous thrombolysis of a wake-up stroke with underlying valvular atrial fibrillation

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Abstract

A 42-year-old female admitted with new-onset atrial fibrillation had a wakeup stroke on the high-dependency unit and the time last seen well (TLSW) was 6.5 h. She suffered left-sided body weakness and her National Institutes of Health Stroke Scale (NIHSS) score was 17. An emergency CT perfusion showed right M1 segment occlusion with more than 50% penumbra. She was given recombinant tissue plasminogen activator (r-tPA) at 9 h from TLSW. An immediate diagnostic angiogram with intention to treat, owing to the presence of large vessel occlusion, showed complete reperfusion after intravenous r-tPA. She was discharged with NIHSS of 2, and at 3-month follow up her Modified Rankin Scale was 0. We demonstrated a successful reperfusion and excellent clinical recovery with intravenous thrombolysis in a patient who presented with a wake-up stroke with underlying valvular atrial fibrillation despite evidence of large vessel occlusion.

Keywords

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