

Lateral Medullary Syndrome

Wallenberg syndrome

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Wallenberg syndrome

- or lateral medullary infarction, is associated with the acute onset of vertigo and disequilibrium.
- The blood supply to the lateral medulla is the posterior inferior cerebellar artery.

PATHOPHYSIOLOGY

- Most patients with Wallenberg's syndrome have an occlusion of the ipsilateral vertebral artery that gives rise to the posterior inferior cerebellar artery .

The clinical presentation,

- Vertigo
- abnormal eye movements
- an ipsilateral Horner syndrome
- ipsilateral limb ataxia
- dissociated sensory loss (loss of pain and temperature sensation on the ipsilateral face and contralateral trunk with preserved vibration and position sense).
- Hoarseness and dysphagia are often present.

Etiology

- Wallenberg's syndrome usually occurs as a result of atherosclerotic or lipohyalinotic arterial occlusion, but it is also a common presentation for traumatic vertebral artery dissection.
- A history of neck injury or neck pain suggests the latter.

The diagnosis

- is established definitively with MRI.
- MRA of the head and neck should be performed as well to rule out arterial dissection.
- Patients usually recover their equilibrium after several months.

Posterior inferior cerebellar artery

- ❑ Lateral Medullary or Wallenberg's syndrome
- ❑ Sensory loss of the "FACE"
- ❑ 9 and 10 C.N. damage
- ❑ Limb ataxia
- ❑ Horner's syndrome
- ❑ Spinothalamic sensory loss



Ipsilateral

Facial numbness (Vth)

Diplopia (VIth)

Nystagmus

Ataxia (cerebellar)

Horner's syndrome

Ninth & tenth nerve lesions

Contralateral

Spinothalamic sensory loss

Hemiparesis (mild, unusual)

LESIONS OF THE BRAINSTEM

1. MEDIAL MEDULLARY SYNDROME : ANTERIOR SPINAL ARTERY
 2. LATERAL MEDULLARY SYNDROME : PICA (*POSTERIOR INFERIOR CEREBELLAR ARTERY*)
 3. MEDIAL INFERIOR PONTINE SYNDROME : BASILAR ARTERY
 4. LATERAL INFERIOR PONTINE SYNDROME : AICA (*ANTERIOR INFERIOR CEREBELLAR ARTERY*)
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5. PARINAUD SYNDROME :
 6. BENEDIKT SYNDROME
 7. WEBER SYNDROME
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Medial Medullary syndrome

CST (CORTICOSPINAL TRACT) : CONTRALATERAL

ML (MEDIAL LEMNISCUS) : CONTRALATERAL

HN (HYPOGLOSSAL NERVE ROOT) : **IPSILATERAL**

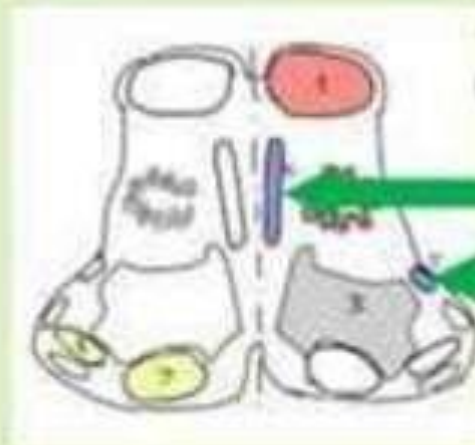
Lateral medullary syndrome



(Horizontally
reversed from
original image)

6 Pain & temperature

7 'Gravity'



Gravity

Pain & temperature