Emerging clinical applications for TCD in pediatric critical care: Ultrasound in vasospasm management

Marlina E. Lovett, MD
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Division of Critical Care Medicine
Nationwide Children's Hospital
The Ohio State University College of Medicine



Case Presentation

11 yo female with Aicardi-Goutieres
 Syndrome type 1, spastic CP, and remote
 hx of seizures presented with
 unresponsiveness, fixed and dilated R
 pupil, decreased movement of her right
 upper extremity, and agonal breathing.





Hospital Course

HD #1:

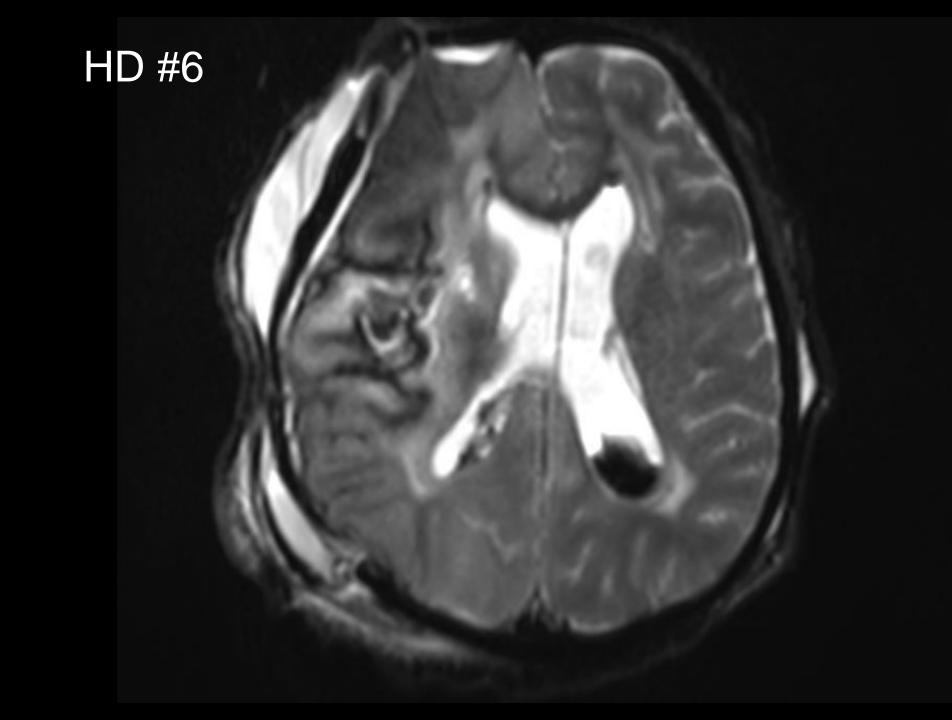
- Underwent R frontotemporal decompressive hemicraniectomy
- Evacuation of R IPH
- Clipping of large R M2 MCA bilobed aneurysm
- EVD placement
- Started nimodipine

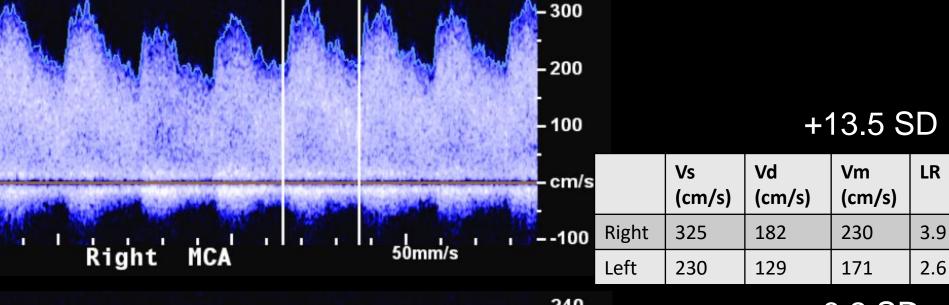


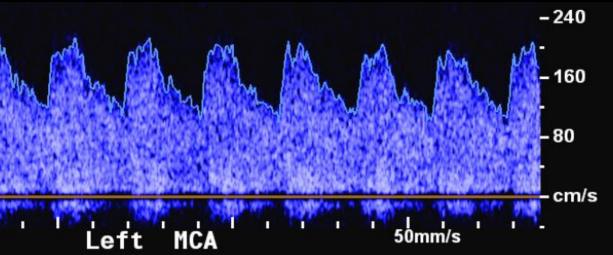
Hospital Course

- HD #2:
 - Initial TCD obtained
 - R MCA (Vs/Vd/Vm (SD), LR): 132/59/83 (0.18 SD), 1.2
 - L MCA (Vs/Vd/Vm (SD), LR): 141/31/68 (1.8 SD), 1.4
- HD #3:
 - DSA: identified 2nd small saccular M1 aneurysm, no large vessel vasospasm; L sided cerebral hypoperfusion







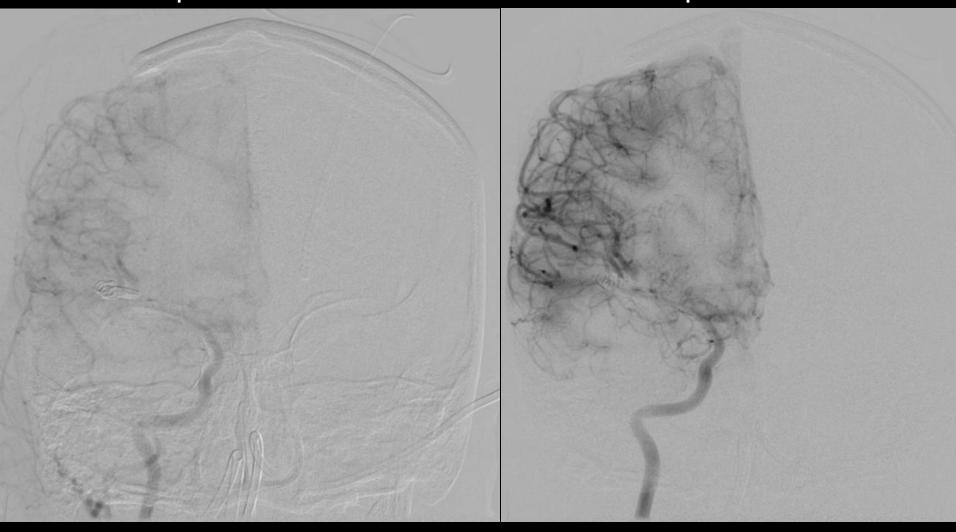


+8.2 SD

Prompted DSA

Pre IA verapamil

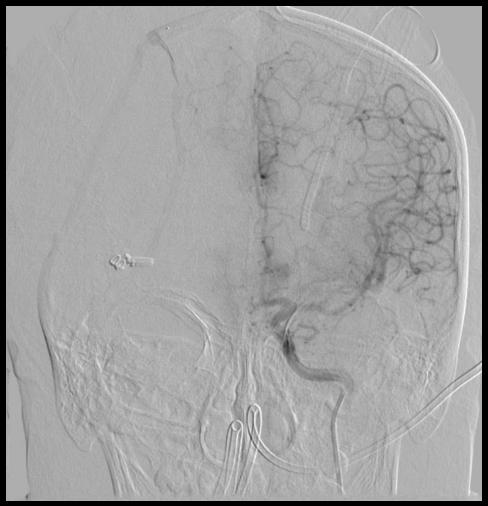
Post IA verapamil



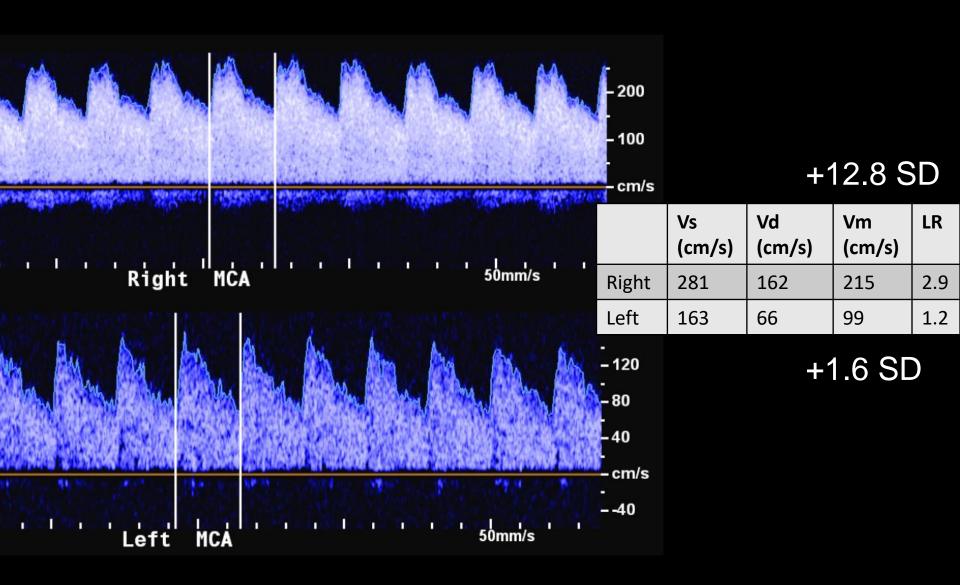
Pre IA verapamil

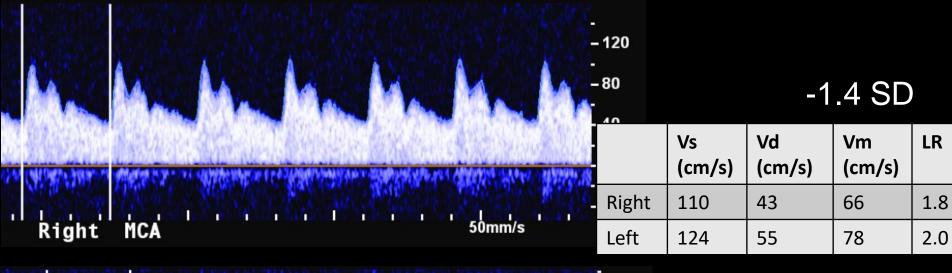


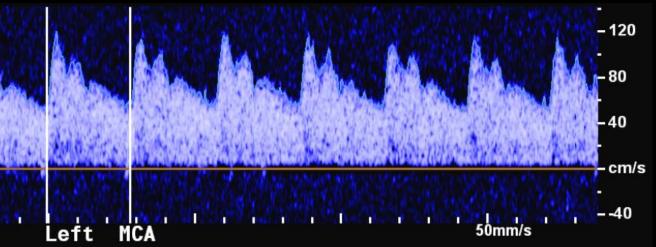
Post IA verapamil



HD #9







-0.27 SD

Hospital Course

- HD #14: bone flap cranioplasty
- HD #16: extubated
- HD #22: EVD removed
- HD #35: discharged home



Controversies

- TCD-based criteria to diagnose vasospasm in children.
- Concordance with additional imaging modalities.
- Management of vasospasm in children.



Adult definition

MCA Vasospasm	Mean flow velocity (cm/s)	Lindegaard Ratio
Mild	120-149	3-6
Moderate	150-199	3-6
Severe	>200	>6

Samagh (2019)

Should we apply these definitions to children?

- What are "normal" flow velocities in children?
- Would the application of adult definitions give an over-estimate or under-estimate of cerebral vasospasm?

Table 3 Mean (SD) flow velocities in basal cerebral arteries (in cm/second) in a cross sectional study of healthy children (n=112)

Age	n	Middle cerebral		Anterior cerebral artery	Posterior cerebral artery		Basilar artery
		ariery			P1*	P2†	_
Systolic peak flow velocity:							
0-10 days	18	46 (10)	47 (9)	35 (8)	_	_	
11-90 days	14	75 (15)	77 (19)	58 (15)		_	_
3–11.9 months	13	114 (20)	104 (12)	77 (15)		_	_
1-2.9 years	9	124 (10)	118 (24)	81 (19)	67 (18)	69 (9)	71 (6)
3-5.9 years	18	147 (17)	144 (19)	104 (22)	84 (20)	81 (16)	88 (9)
6-9.9 years	20	143 (13)	140 (14)	100 (20)	82 (11)	75 (10)	85 (17)
10-18 years	20	129 (17)	125 (18)	92 (19)	75 (16)	66 (10)	68 (11)
Mean flow velocity‡:							
0-10 days	18	24 (7)	25 (6)	19 (6)	_	_	_
11–90 days	14	42 (10)	43 (12)	33 (11)	_	_	_
3-11.9 months	13	74 (14)	67 (10)	50 (11)		_	_
1-2.9 years	9	85 (10)	81 (8)	55 (13)	50 (17)	50 (12)	51 (6)
3-5.9 years	18	94 (10)	93 (9)	71 (15)	56 (13)	48 (11)	58 (6)
6-9.9 years	20	97 (9)	93 (9)	65 (13)	57 (9)	51 (9)	58 (9)
10-18 years	20	81 (11)	79 (12)	56 (14)	50 (10)	45 (9)	46 (8)
End diastolic peak flow vel	locity:						
0-10 days	18	12 (7)	12 (6)	10 (6)	_	_	
11-90 days	14	24 (8)	24 (8)	19 (9)	_		_
3-11.9 months	13	46 (9)	40 (8)	33 (7)			_
1-2.9 years	9	65 (11)	58 (S)	40 (11)	36 (13)	35 (7)	35 (6)
3–5.9 years	18	65 (9)	66 (8)	48 (9)	40 (12)	35 (9)	41 (5)
6-9.9 years	20	72 (9)	68 (10)	51 (10)	42 (7)	38 (7)	44 (8)
10-18 years	20	60 (8)	59 (9)	46 (11)	39 (8)	33 (7)	36 (7)

^{*}Precommunicating part of posterior cerebral artery.

Bode and Wais (1988)

[†]Postcommunicating part of posterior cerebral artery.

[‡]Mean flow velocity=time-mean of the maximal velocity envelope curve.



Disease Process	# of studies
SAH	5 (3 case reports)
Malaria	1
ТВІ	5
Concussion	1
CNS Infections	2
Medulloblastoma	1 (case report)
Migraine	1
Rabies	1 (case report)

Definition	Studies
MFV ≥ 2 SD above norms AND LR ≥ 3	Reuter-Rice et al (TBI, 2018) O'Brien et al (TBI, 2018) O'Brien et al (TBI, 2015)
MFV > 2 SD above normative values AND LR > 3 AND dicrotic notch present on MCA waveform analysis	O'Brien et al (Malaria, 2018)
MFV > 120 cm/s	Snelling et al (SAH, case report, 2017)
MFV > 120 cm/s AND LR ≥ 3 OR MFV > 200 cm/s	Ducharme-Crevier et al (CNS infections, 2016)
MFV 160-199 cm/s (mild), > 200 cm/s (moderate-severe)	Heffren (SAH, 2015)
MFV > 120 cm/s AND LR ≥ 3	Moftakhar (aneurysmal/traumatic SAH, 2014) Van Toorn (TB meningitis, 2014)
MFV > 120 cm/s OR MFV>120 cm/s AND LR ≥ 3	O'Brien et al (TBI, 2010)
MFV > 100 cm/s AND LR ≥ 3	Mandera et al (TBI, 2002)
LR > 3	Boasso et al (migraines, 2004)

Practice Recommendations for Transcranial Doppler Ultrasonography in Critically III Children in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit: A Multidisciplinary Expert Consensus Statement

```
Nicole Fortier O'Brien<sup>1</sup> Karin Reuter-Rice<sup>2</sup> Mark S. Wainwright<sup>3</sup> Summer L. Kaplan<sup>4</sup> Brian Appavu<sup>5</sup> Jennifer C. Erklauer<sup>6</sup> Suman Ghosh<sup>7</sup> Matthew Kirschen<sup>8</sup> Brandi Kozak<sup>9</sup> Karen Lidsky<sup>10</sup> Marlina Elizabeth Lovett<sup>11</sup> Amy R. Mehollin-Ray<sup>12</sup> Darryl K. Miles<sup>13</sup> Craig A. Press<sup>14</sup> Dennis W. Simon<sup>15</sup> Robert C. Tasker<sup>16</sup> Kerri Lynn LaRovere<sup>17</sup>
```

To diagnose abnormal flow, mean flow velocities \leq or \geq 2 SD from age and gender normal value can be used. No Lindegaard ratio (LR) has been validated in children to differentiate between hyperemia and vasospasm in the MCA and thus using specific cut-offs for diagnosing, grading, or determining the clinical significance of vasospasm in the MCAs cannot be recommended. However, following LR values over time may have clinical utility to determine trends in cerebral blood flow.

No Sviri or Soustiel ratio has been validated in children to differentiate between hyperemia and vasospasm in the BA and thus using specific cut-offs for diagnosing, grading, or determining the clinical significance of vasospasm in the BA cannot be recommended. However, following Sviri/Soustiel values over time may have clinical utility to determine trends in cerebral blood flow.

Radiographic validation (with CT, MRI, etc.) of abnormal TCD findings should be strongly considered depending on the clinical indication for TCD examination.

Study	Population	% with TCD vasospasm	Confirmed	Treatment	Outcome
O'Brien (2018, 2015)	ТВІ	23 (19/83)	MRA (6 kids)	No	sTBI: 18% good outcome modTBI: 76% good
Heffren (2015)	SAH	88 (8/9)	Angio (6/8)	Nimodipine	See next slide
Moftakaar (2015)	SAH	81 (13/16)	Angio (55% of vessels +TCD/-angio)	IA verapamil papaverine angioplasty	68% good outcome

3 studies mentioned confirmation of vasospasm on additional modality 2 studies reported treating vasospasm



Concordance

- Heffren et al:
 - Definition: MFV > 160-199 cm/s (mild), > 200 cm/s (moderate to severe)
 - 77% concordance
- Moftakhar et al:
 - Definition: MFV > 120 cm/s AND LR ≥ 3
 - MCA: TCD 85% sensitive, 40% specific in diagnosing vasospasm in comparison to DSA



Population	% with TCD vasospasm	Confirmed?	Treatment	Outcome	
Malaria	13 (21/160)	N	N	37% nl outcome, 45% w/ neuro sequelae, 18% died	
ТВІ	43 (26/60)	N	N	56% good, 28% moderate disability, 16% severe disability	
Tot	al: 1	04/	475	8% good ne 31: 76% good	
				ported	
SAH	88 (8/9)	Angio (6/8)	Nimodipine	See next slide	
SAH	81 (13/16)	Angio (55% of the vessels +TCD/-angio)	IA verapamil or papaverine or angioplasty	TCD 95% sensitive, 59% specific 68% good outcome	
TB Meningitis	5 (1/20)	N	N	Normal	
ТВІ	45.5 (10/22)	N	N	Not reported	
ТВІ	0 (0/23)	N	N	n/a	
Migraine	6 (4/62)	N	N	Not reported	
	TBI TBI TBI TBI TBI TBI TBI TBI	vasospasm Malaria 13 (21/160) TBI 43 (26/60) SAH 88 (8/9) SAH 81 (13/16) TB Meningitis 5 (1/20) TBI 45.5 (10/22) TBI 0 (0/23)	Vasospasm Malaria 13 (21/160) N TBI 43 (26/60) N Total: 104/ SAH 88 (8/9) Angio (6/8) SAH 81 (13/16) Angio (55% of the vessels +TCD/-angio) TB Meningitis 5 (1/20) N TBI 45.5 (10/22) N TBI 0 (0/23) N	Malaria 13 (21/160) N N TBI 43 (26/60) N N Total: 104/475 SAH 88 (8/9) Angio (6/8) Nimodipine SAH 81 (13/16) Angio (55% of the vessels +TCD/-angio) IA verapamil or papaverine or angioplasty TB Meningitis 5 (1/20) N N TBI 45.5 (10/22) N N TBI 0 (0/23) N N	

Thoughts

- Helpful to trend.
- May prompt additional imaging.
- Need to acknowledge the limited and heterogenous literature.



Controversies

- TCD-based criteria to diagnose vasospasm in children.
- Concordance with additional imaging modalities.
- Management of vasospasm in children.

Need more literature!

