

ENDGAMES

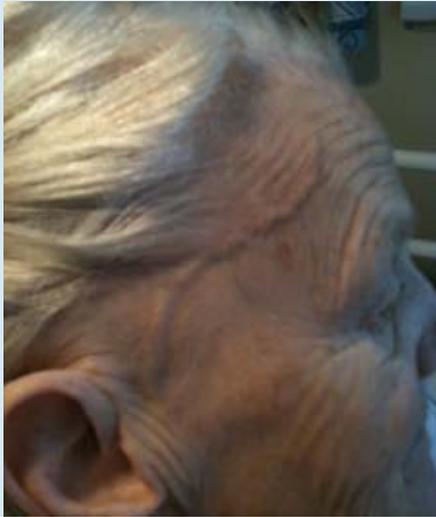
We welcome contributions that would help doctors with postgraduate examinations
See bmj.com/endgames for details

FOR SHORT ANSWERS

See p 473

FOR LONG ANSWERS

Go to the Education channel on bmj.com



PICTURE QUIZ Waking up to darkness

An 84 year old woman was referred by her general practitioner to the emergency department with painless binocular blindness. She reported waking four days previously to find that she could no longer see. Fearful of the possibility of malignancy, she delayed presentation to hospital. On further questioning, she recalled focal right frontal headaches of four months' duration. She denied any previous visual disturbance. On direct questioning, she admitted to pain in her jaw, which was most noticeable at mealtimes.

The neurological examination showed bilateral afferent pupillary defects and no perception of light in either eye. Funduscopy showed bilaterally swollen optic discs. On closer inspection, her temporal regions had an unusual appearance

bilaterally (figure) and her right temporal artery was pulseless to palpation. Her erythrocyte sedimentation rate was 76 mm in the first hour and computed tomography of the brain was unremarkable for her age.

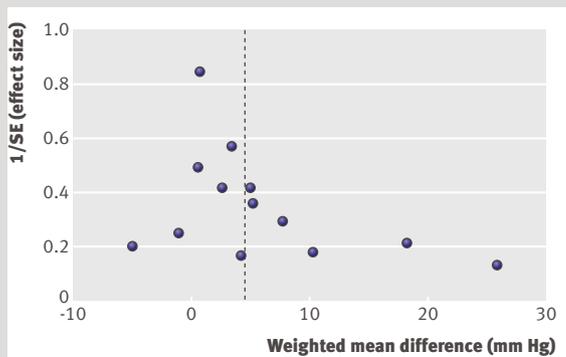
- 1 What is the diagnosis?
- 2 What are the important features of the clinical history?
- 3 What should be considered on clinical examination?
- 4 What is the pathophysiology of this condition?
- 5 How is the condition managed?

Submitted by Aoife C Lowney, Stephen A Ryan, Andrea Ryan, and Sinead Harney
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STATISTICAL QUESTION Meta-analyses: funnel plots

Researchers undertook a meta-analysis of the effects of home monitoring on blood pressure. Randomised controlled trials were included if participants had essential hypertension and were trying to achieve blood pressure targets. The participants who did home blood pressure monitoring used ambulatory monitors. The control intervention was standard blood pressure monitoring in the healthcare system. In total, 13 randomised controlled trials were identified, with length of intervention ranging from two months to three years.

Primary outcome measures included the difference between treatment arms in mean systolic blood pressure. It was reported that home blood pressure monitoring resulted in lower systolic blood pressure than standard monitoring, with an overall mean difference of 4.2 mm Hg (95% confidence interval 1.5 to 6.9 mm Hg). A funnel plot was presented (figure). The funnel plot displayed asymmetry, and Egger's test gave a statistically significant result ($P=0.038$).



Funnel plot for the meta-analysis of the effects of home blood pressure monitoring on systolic blood pressure in comparison with standard monitoring

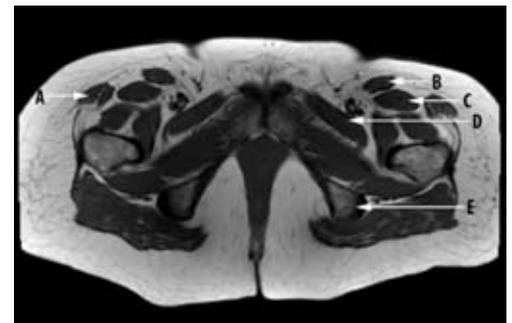
Which of the following may have led to asymmetry in the funnel plot?

- a) Publication bias
- b) Language bias
- c) Citation bias
- d) Poor methodological design in the trials

Submitted by Philip Sedgwick
Cite this as: *BMJ* 2011;343:d5372

ANATOMY QUIZ

Magnetic resonance image of the pelvis



Identify the structures labelled A to E in this axial image from a magnetic resonance study of the pelvis.

Submitted by Shaun Quigley and Isabelle Reed
Cite this as: *BMJ* 2011;343:d5312

ON EXAMINATION QUIZ

Ectopic pregnancy

This week's question is on predisposing factors for ectopic pregnancy and is taken from the onExamination revision questions for the MRCS Part 1 examination.

Which of the following factors does not predispose to ectopic pregnancy?

- A Endometriosis
- B Intrauterine contraceptive device
- C Ovarian fibroids
- D Pelvic inflammatory disease
- E Progesterone only contraceptive pill