



Optic Disc Drusen in Differential Diagnosis of Optic Neuritis

Optik Nörit Ayrıcı Tanısında Optik Disk Druzeni

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Optic disc drusen is a condition where a hyaline-like calcific object is accumulated on the optical nerve ending, often bilaterally (1). Its prevalence in the general population is 0.34-3.7%. It can be confused with optic papillitis since it blurs the papillary border at the bottom of the eye. Drusens can be seen as opacity in B-scan ultrasonography and computerized tomography (2). Optic disc drusens present with slowly progressing visual field defects.

The 21-year-old patient who complained of blurry vision on both eyes did not have a history of disease. Her vision was blurry for the past 10 days, especially on the left side. There was no history of eyeball pain, headache, infection or trauma. Her vision was 0.2 on the right and 0.1 on the left side. The papillary borders were undefined on both sides in the examination of the base of the eyes (Figure 1). Due to the slow clinical decline over 10 days, cranial and spinal magnetic resonance imaging was conducted in order to address any possible demyelinating disease but did not produce any remarkable findings. After this, cranial and orbital tomography was conducted with the pre-diagnosis of optic disc drusen. In her orbital tomography, there were glossy hyaline objects bilaterally at the level of papilla (Figure 2).

Since it is easy to confuse optic disc drusen with papillitis, it is important to include it in the differential diagnosis in the cases with bilateral visual deficit. The most reliable tool in the diagnosis is B-scan ultrasonography but brain tomography is also extremely useful where the first option is not available.

References

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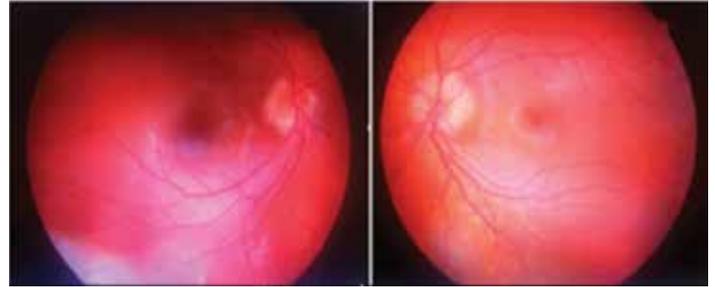


Figure 1. Optic disc drusen on both sides: Discs are protruded due to the drusen and their borders are not clearly defined.

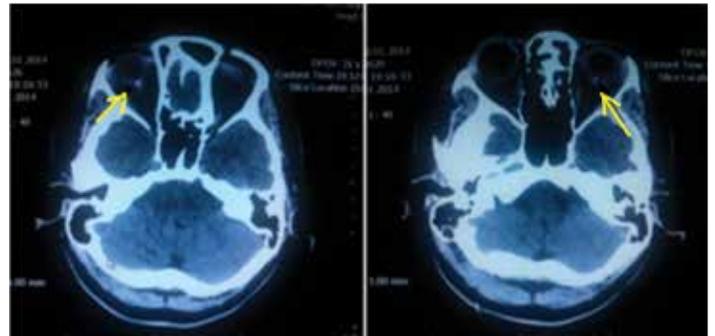


Figure 2. The round, well-defined hyaline object on the optic nerve endings were marked with arrows on the brain tomography.

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