



DERMATOLOGICAL SURGERY

CEREBRAL STROKE FOLLOWING SCLEROTHERAPY OF VARICOSE VEINS – A CASE REPORT

Dhanraj Chavan⁽¹⁾

Krishna Institute Of Medical Sciences, Dermatology, Karad, India⁽¹⁾

Background: This report describes an ischemic stroke after foam injection sclerotherapy of varicose veins in a patient with a patent foramen ovale. Foam injection sclerotherapy has created resurgence in the minimally invasive treatment of varicose veins. Neurologic complications such as transient visual disturbances and transient confusional states have previously been reported. This case, with its strong circumstantial evidence, illustrates the previously unconfirmed potential for embolic complications using this technique.

Case Report: A 61-year-old man presenting with symptomatic CEAP clinical class IV varicose veins developed headache, giddiness, imbalance while walking, loss of memory, disorientation and slurred speech 1 day after foam injection sclerotherapy of the right great saphenous vein (GSV). Patient was a known case of Diabetes Mellitus & Hypertension. On admission his blood pressure was 180/100mmHg. Magnetic Resonance Imaging scan done on admission showed an Acute Right Middle Cerebral Artery Infarct. No right to left shunts were present in the heart on further examination.

Sclerotherapy had been performed in the patient the previous day with 0.2% Polidocanol. The patient was managed in association with the Department of Medicine. The patient recovered completely with no neurological deficits after a total duration of 3 months.

Discussion: Neurological side effects following sclerotherapy are a rare occurrence; only about 15 cases have been reported till date; however, CVA associated with the use of sclerotherapy is clearly documented. The pathologic mechanisms resulting in CVA are likely to be different to those leading to migraine and visual disturbances; however, care should be exercised in patient selection, particularly in those with known cardiac defects.

