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Aneurysmal degeneration of vein graft 34 years after common carotid bypass for blunt trauma

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Case report

*A 59 years old caucasian man underwent open surgery using a reversed greater saphenous vein to replace the distal part of the right common carotid after a neck blunt trauma 34 years ago.

*Medical background and cardiovascular risk factors:

Arterial hypertension, dyslipidemia, smoking habit and atrial fibrillation.

*He presented suddenly 3 months before a pulsatile mass in the right lateral cervical region. He had no pain, no fever and there was no other clinical symptom associated.

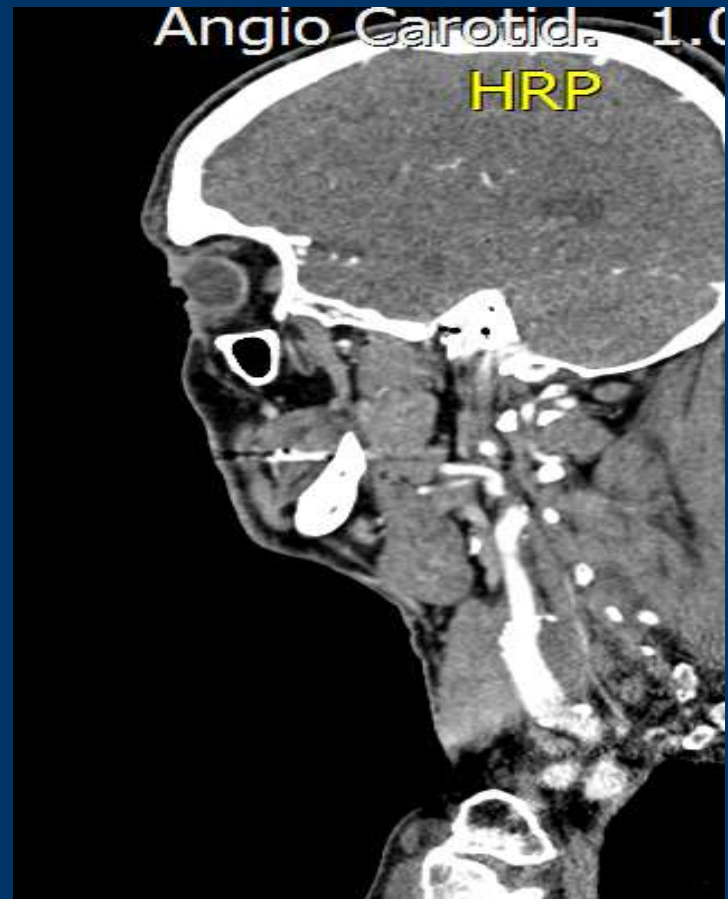
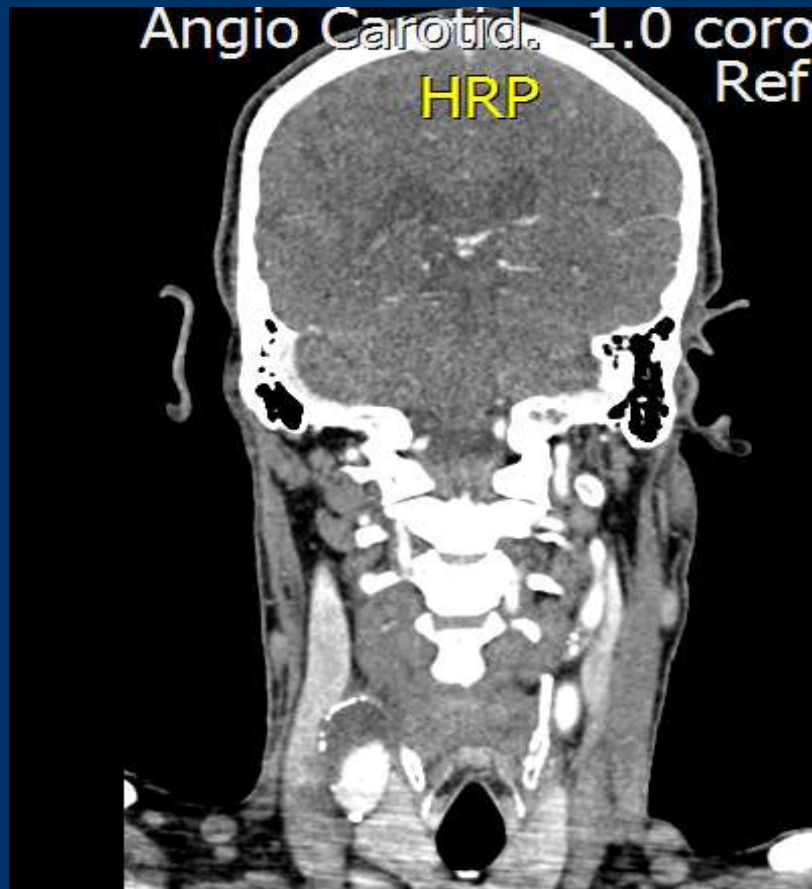
* we were able to diagnose an aneurysm of the vein graft first with the doppler ultrasound. This diagnosis was confirmed by a computed tomography angiography (CTA)

CTA (1):

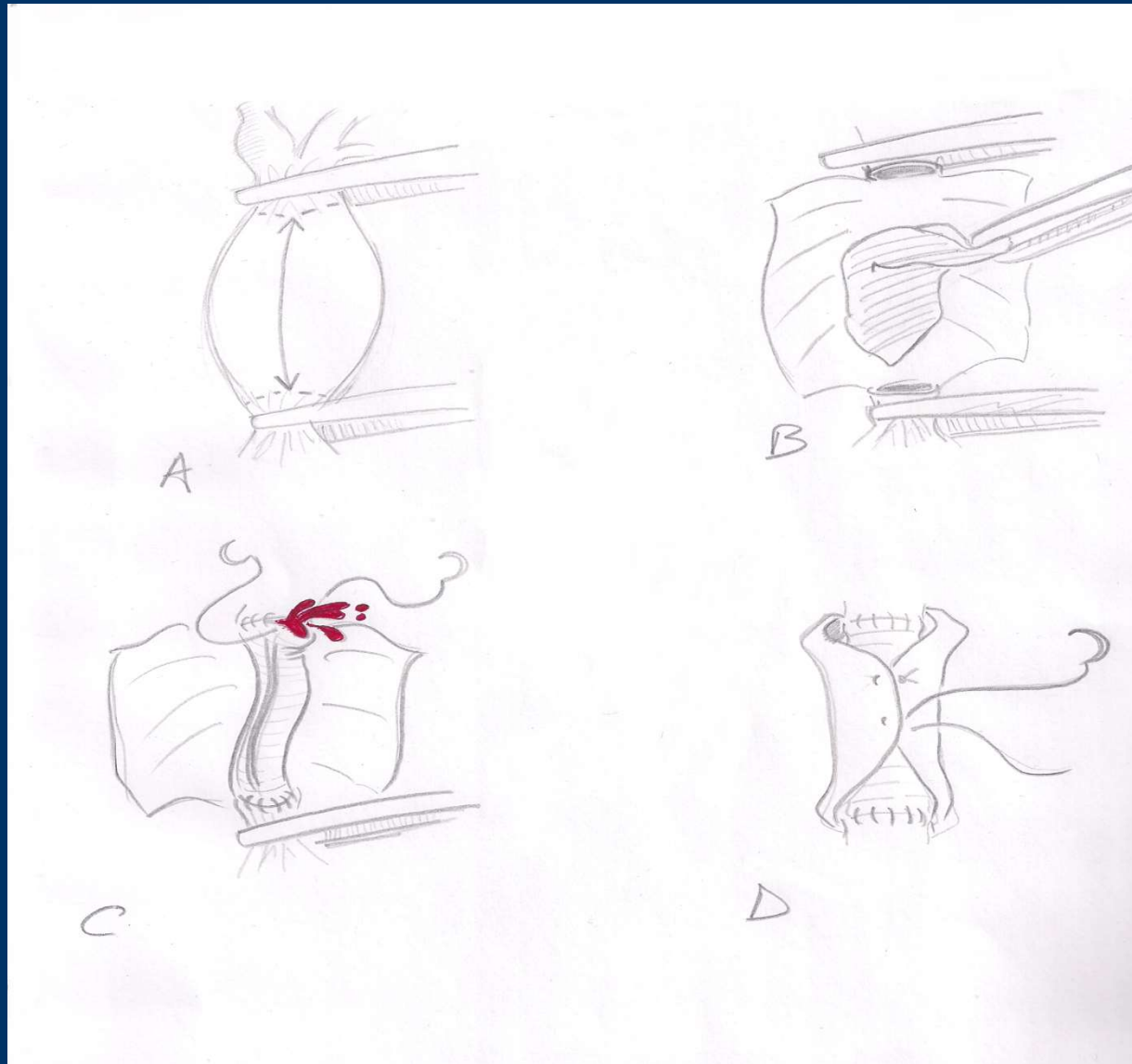
Computed tomography angiography revealed a 2,5 × 4,1 cm sized **fusiform aneurysm of the vein graft replacing the common carotid**. There was **thrombus** partially filling the lumen.

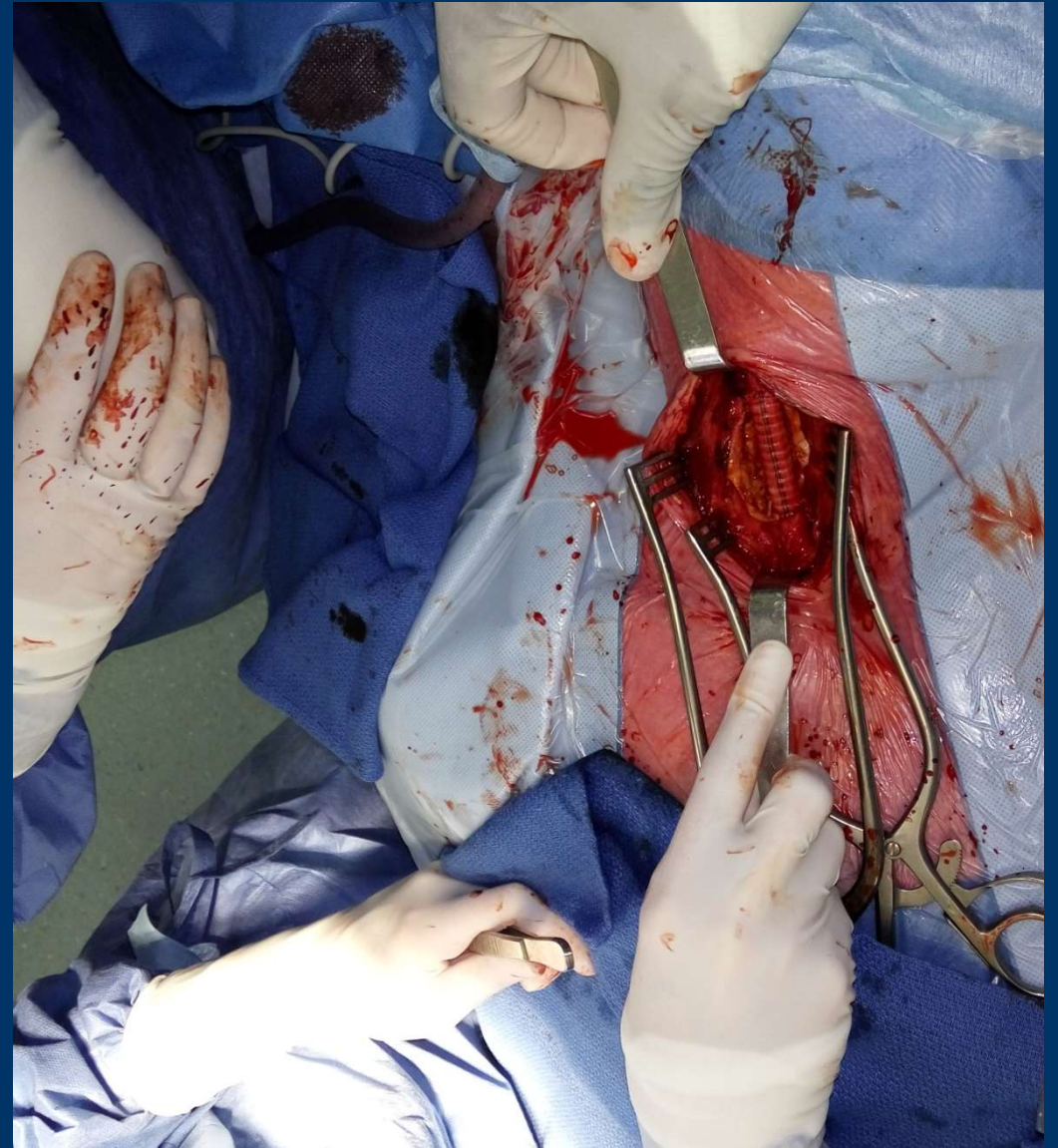
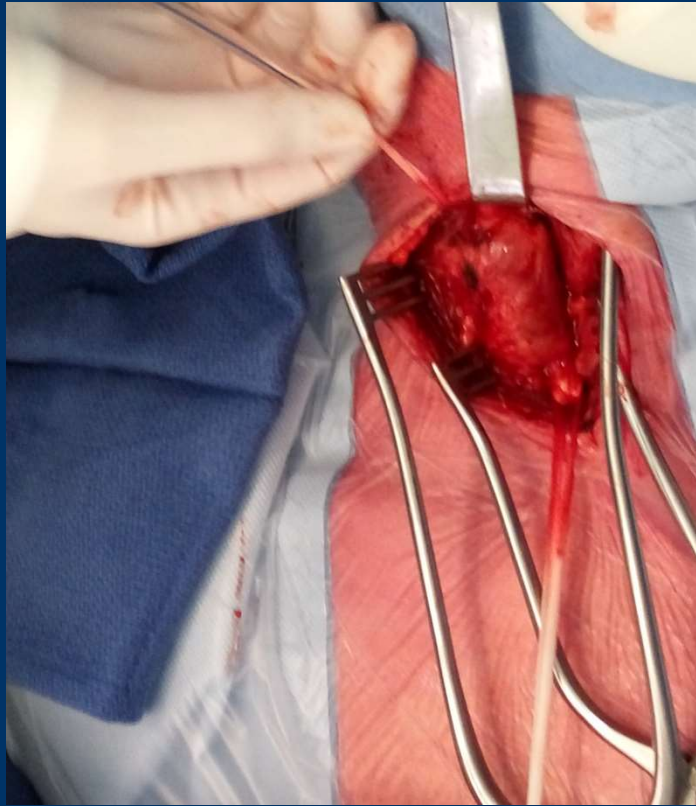


CTA (2)



Under general anaesthesia, an open approach was realized. The common carotid was clamped during 19 minutes to replace the aneurysmal degeneration by Dacron prosthetic graft. There was no complication. The bacteriology of the intraluminal thrombus was negative. After 6 months follow-up, there is no complication.





Conclusion:

- *Blunt cerebrovascular injuries occur in approximately 1% of blunt trauma patients.
 - *Antithrombotic therapy reduces the incidence of stroke. Open surgical or endovascular treatment has to be performed for high-risk lesions.
 - *Bypass using the greater saphenous vein is one of the surgical options.
 - *Aneurysmal degeneration of vein graft is rare. Only few cases involving the common carotid artery have been reported.
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