Reviewer's report

**Title:** An unexpected evolution of a symptomatic mild middle cerebral artery (MCA) stenosis: ultrasound diagnosis and follow-up

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 3 October 2011

**Reviewer:** Jens Allendoerfer

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Minor essential revisions

1. The MCA stenosis was described as mild or 50%. The Figure 1 (A1) shows a systolic velocity of nearly 400cm/s. An insonation angle is not given. According to the criteria (TCCS) published by Baumgartner (Stroke 1999) the degree of the MCA stenosis is more than 50%. If evaluated I would suggest to present the hemodynamic changes in the left ACA and PCA at least of the second and third sonography. What's about the velocity and pulsatility in the poststenotic M2 segment? Was there a relevant side to side difference? These data can support the high or “mild” degree of stenosis and may be of special interest for sonographers.

2. The discussion is focused on the vessel status only. The authors should give some aspects to the etiology and their opinion. They should give some information about the CSF, because a MCA stenosis in case of focal vasculitis (e.g. in VZV infection or borreliosis) is possible. A beginning of moyamoya disease can be discussed too.

Nevertheless because of this unique course of a MCA stenosis to an occlusion without symptoms, the case is of high interest for vascular neurologists.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests