Case of cerebral cavernous angiomas with epilepsy as manifestation

Lisa safira, Nurul Iman Nilamsari, Irawan Mangunatmadja
Department of Child Health, University of Indonesia Medical School/
Cipto Mangunkusumo Hospital, Jakarta

Abstract

Cerebral cavernous angiomas (CCAs) are collections of small blood vessels (capillaries) in the brain that are enlarged and irregular in structure. Approximately 25 percent of individuals with CCAs never experience any related medical problems and others may experience serious symptoms such as headaches, seizures, paralysis, hearing or vision deficiencies, and cerebral hemorrhage.

We reported a 14-year-old boy came with recurrent seizures since a month before admission. Type of seizure was generalized and last in one minute, loss of consciousness and woke up after that. Seizure occured up to three times a day, without fever. Patient felt headache and relieved without any pain killer. Neurologic examinations and funduscopy showed normal results Patient was diagnosed as general epilepsy and managed by valproic acid. Electroencephalography examination showed focal slower waves in left centrotemporal. Heterogeneous lesion in left hippocampus seen on MRI cerebral, suspected a vascular lesion with bleeding. Thus, MRA examination was performed and the result confirmed a cerebral cavernous angioma. Patient underwent anterior temporal lobectomy (ATL) and amigdalohippocampectomy. Three months and 6 months follow up after surgery, there were no seizure and headache, EEG showed no epileptiform wave, and thus valproic acid dose was tapered off.

Any children with epilepsy should be evaluated for other underlying disease. Cerebral cavernous angiomas should be taken account as one of the source problem even if the incidence were rare.

Keywords: *cerebral cavernous angiomas, epilepsy, EEG, MRI*