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NEURORADIOLOGY
MUHC-MNH

VOLUME 25, NUMBER 1
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THE DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

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*The De Beers
Centenary Diamond*

75TH ANNIVERSARIES

The NEURO is celebrating its 75th Anniversary in the first week of November.

This is a DIAMOND JUBILEE

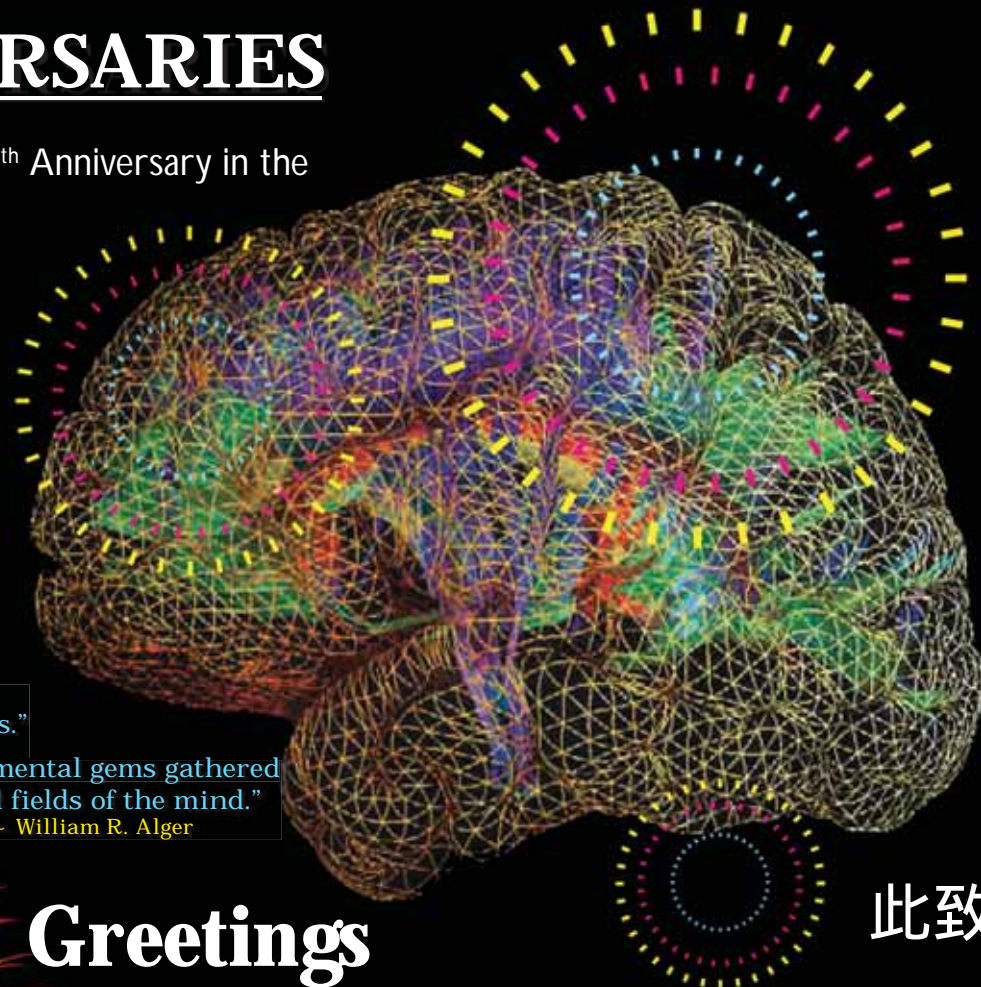
Make plans to attend, if not already done.

And while we are on the subject, It is also my 75th anniversary this year, on October 21st.

“Pressure makes diamonds.”
~ General George S. Patton

“Diamonds are nothing more than chunks of coal that stuck to their jobs.”
~ Malcolm S. Forbes

“Proverbs are mental gems gathered in the diamond fields of the mind.”
~ William R. Alger



Greetings

此致

Amicalement

O Genki De

Cordialmente Saudações

Herzliche Gruesse

Alsalam alaykum

Respetos

Namaste

Afectuosamente

Bäst Hälsningar

Saluti affettuosi

敬意

So please keep in touch,
visit NeuroImage's website
<http://www.mni.mcgill.ca/neuroimage/index.html>



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ICH BIN EIN BERLINER!



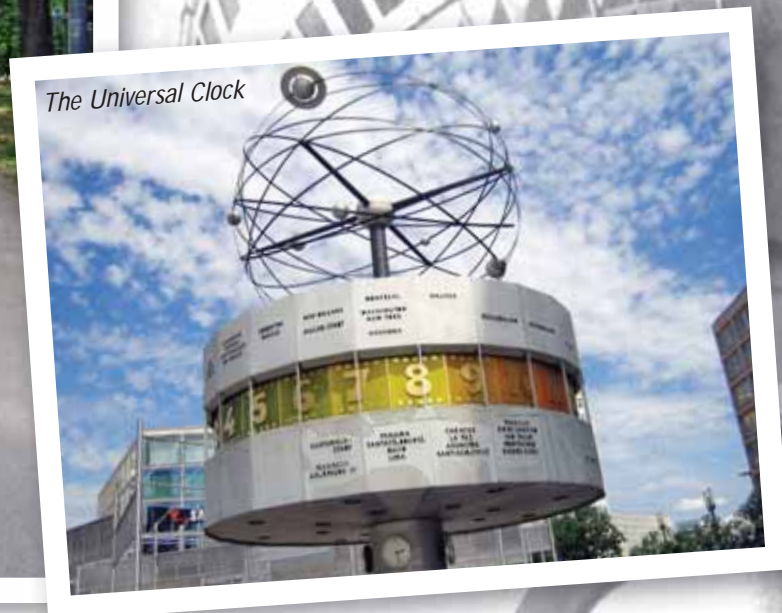
The Reichstag



A French Cafe



In Monbijou Park



The Universal Clock

I took a trip to Berlin, last May.

I stayed in a nice apartment on 31, Schlegelstrasse, in the former East Berlin, near the Jazz Academy and Bertold Brecht' house.

Walking to different sites, visiting museums and chateaux, And attending concerts was our main activity.

Here are some pictures we took.



Oranium Restaurant



Kleine Hamburger Strasse

Linien Strasse



Brandenburg

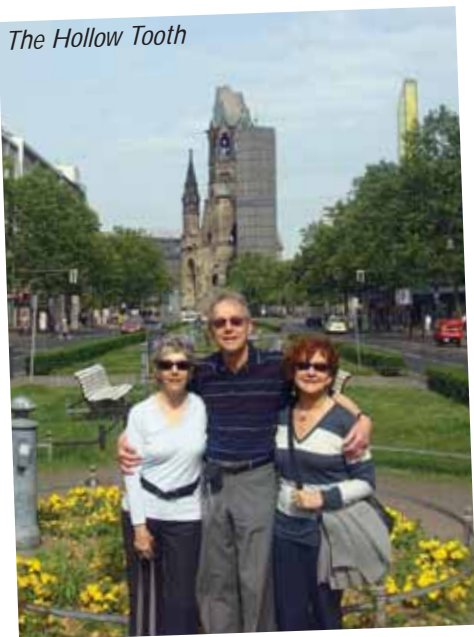


Staatsoper



Konzerthaus

Every day our walk to and from our friends' apartment, from Kleine Hamburger Strasse, on to Tortstrasse, then Chausseestrasse to Schlegelstrasse, we had the feeling that part of the heart of Berlin is in that part of East Berlin.

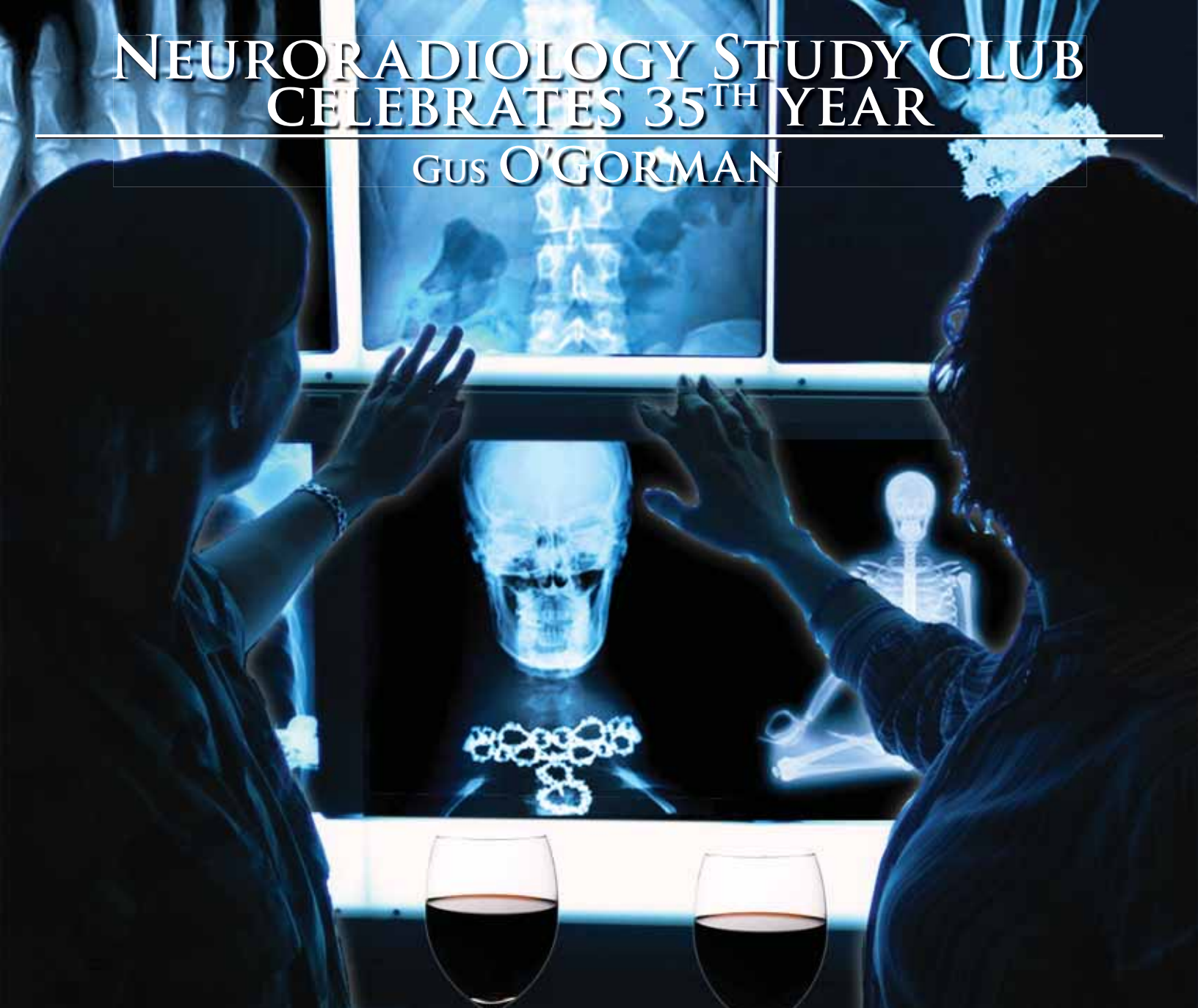


The Hollow Tooth



NEURORADIOLOGY STUDY CLUB CELEBRATES 35TH YEAR

GUS O'GORMAN



The Neuro Study Club (NSC) this year marks 35yrs of continuous existence. Meeting once a month on the second Tuesday at the MNI the NSC represents a unique event in the life of McGill University and in the life of Université de Montréal. It appears to be the only regular forum catering to specialists, fellows and residents from the affiliated hospitals of the two universities. It is also special in the fact that, in the culture of the Study Club, the cases are presented and discussed by the staff—residents and fellows can have an evening off from quiz and evaluation pressure. Over the years the NSC has been described by some participants as the single best continuous CME opportunity in the year. This is staff learning with real time case reports. All of this is enjoyed with wine, cheese and fruit refreshment after a busy day at the hospital base.

Attendance has varied over time but recent meetings have been specially energized by a group of young female neuroradiologists from CHUM and by Dr Tampieri, current head of neuroradiology at the MNH. Stalwarts also include Dr Peter Ender providing an essential clinical flavour and the still practicing Dr Romeo Ethier. Dr Roberto Wee regularly travels from Ottawa for the meeting but the glue that has held the NSC together over the years is the continued teaching presence of Dr Denis Melançon. Celebrating his 75th year, Dr Melançon always finds the teaching point to be shared from his extraordinary experience.

The NSC meets during the academic year on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 5:30pm. Nostalgic for the past, we can still adjourn in time for the hockey play-offs if this should be ever again necessary. As has been the case for 35yrs, all are welcome.

THE STUDY CLUB DI NEURORADIOLOGIA COMPIE 35 ANNI IN OTTOBRE

DONATELLA TAMPIERI

L'anno 2009 ci riserva tante possibilita' di festeggiare delle ricorrenze importanti.

In questo numero di Neuro-Image vogliamo soprattutto sottolineare il 35esimo compleanno dello Study Club di Neuroradiologia che fu creato dal Dr Denis Melançon e Dr Gus O'Gorman per consolidare la discussione ,la riflessione e finalmente per trasmettere una filosofia di approccio alla Neuroradiologia a tante generazioni di colleghi.

Lo Study Club e' un avvenimento mensile importante che ci offre l'occasione di riunirci neuroradiologi, neurologi ,professori e studenti per discutere casi interessanti di Neuroradiologia Diagnostica e Terapeutica.

Le nostre porte sono sempre aperte a tutti e tanti fra di voi hanno assistito e partecipato alle nostre riunioni.

La mia esperienza con lo Study Club e' ed e' sempre stata eccezionale, da 22 anni il secondo martedì di ogni mese e' riservato nella mia agenda a questa riunione.

Ho imparato tanto dai miei maestri Dr Melançon ,Dr Wee Dr O' Gorman Dr Goldberg Dr Ethier e attraverso gli anni abbiamo costruito un gruppo che va al di la' dell'immagine. Infatti siamo anche un gruppo affiatato con discussioni, alle volte animate, ma che finiscono sempre col sorriso sulle labbra e con la sensazione profonda di aver imparato da tutti i partecipanti abituarini (Dr Fontaine, Dr Bar, Dr Bélair, Dr Guerin ,Dr Cortes e Dr Ender).

Ovviamente la discussione dei casi e' accompagnata da un buon vino e formaggio,il tutto ancora migliore soprattutto se sono ITALIANI!

Questa ricorrenza mensile ha permesso attraverso gli anni di migliorare le mie conoscenze neuroradiologiche ma anche di arricchirmi dell' amicizia dei miei colleghi della comunita' neuroradiologica di Montreal.

Quest' anno l' Ospedale e Istituto Neurologico di Montreal festeggia il 75esimo anniversario della sua nascita . La prima pietra posta sotto la direzione del Dr Penfield si e' sviluppata in un istituto clinico e di ricerca di valore mondiale ed io sono molto fiera di farne parte. Le celebrazioni per questa ricorrenza si terranno dal 2 al 4 Novembre 2009.

Veniteci a trovare e portate i vostri casi interessanti sara' un piacere accogliervi nello Study Club di Neuroradiologia.

Ciao a tutti

Donatella Tampieri



TRIGÉSIMO QUINTO ANIVERSARIO DEL "GRUPO DE ESTUDIO DE NEURORADIOLOGÍA"

MARIA CORTES

Nada se puede comparar con la fascinación que genera asistir por primera vez al grupo de estudio de Neuroradiología del Dr. Denis Melançon. A eso de las cinco y treinta de la tarde del segundo martes de cada mes, un pequeño salón de conferencias en el segundo piso del Instituto Neurológico de Montreal se convierte en un club social donde los asistentes son acogidos con una copa de vino y una tabla de quesos espectacular. No obstante la lluvia, el frío extremo o una tormenta de nieve, viejos amigos van llegando a la cita; con frecuencia vienen acompañados de jóvenes radiólogos que perplejos saludan y poco a poco se integran.

Pasadas las seis y cuarto, las luces se atenúan para dar inicio a una sesión mas. El Dr. Melançon transmite algún mensaje ocasional, comparte noticias sobre algún radiólogo conocido en tierras lejanas e invita al primer presentador al podium. Durante casi dos horas, se presentan casos interesantes o irresolutos de patologías neurológicas extraordinarias. En cada presentación la audiencia sin temor pregunta, opina, pide mas imágenes y menciona diagnósticos diferenciales.

Al final de cada sesión, queda la ambición de conocimiento que solo deja lo que mucho apasiona. Y pasa así otro mes hasta la próxima cita, a eso de las cinco y treinta de un martes.

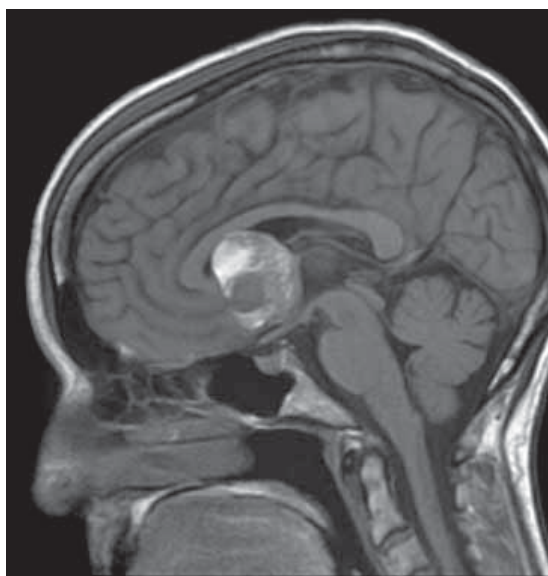
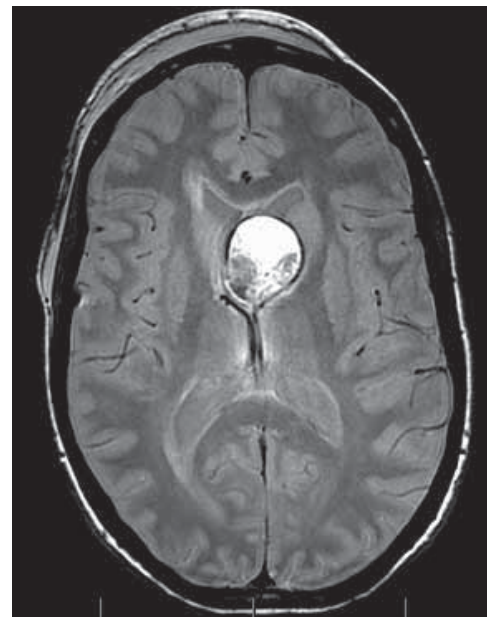
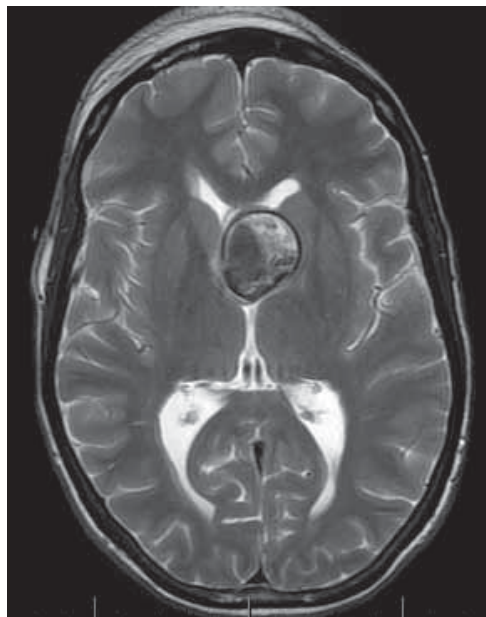
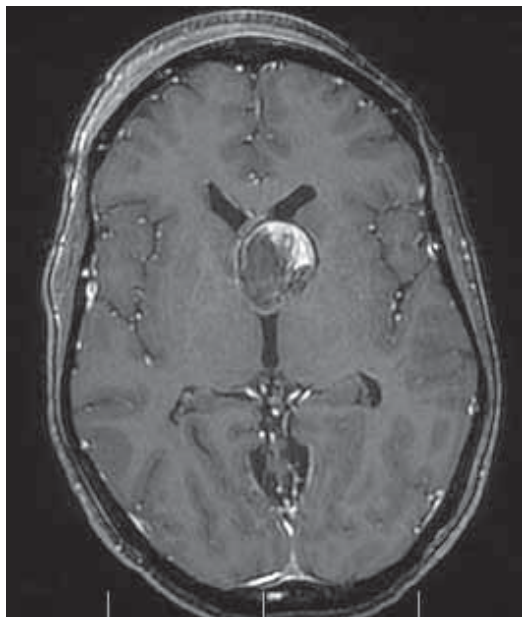
Este año, este grupo de amigos que ansían aprender y enseñar celebra su trigésimo quinto aniversario. El Dr. Melançon es el motor de esta idea, única en su genero. Su generosidad para compartir el conocimiento y su humildad para seguir aprendiendo son el fundamento de este grupo de estudio.

Para quienes tenemos la fortuna de asistir, continuar esta tradición es un compromiso de lealtad!

Maria Cortes. MD

THE LOGIC OF THINGS

DENIS MELANÇON

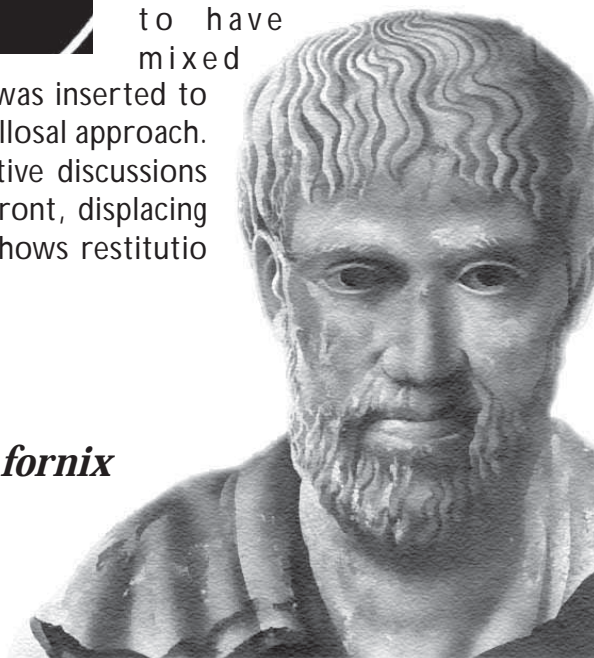


This case study involved a female patient, age 46, who suffered from chronic fatigue syndrome. About 2 months before admission, she developed headaches; and after consultation, she reported short-term memory problems. She had a CT Head which showed a large lesion in the anterior septal region and hydrocephalus. The lesion was hyperdense, a colloid cyst was entertained. The MR examination showed the lesion to have mixed

signals typical of bleeding, more or less recent. A ventricular drain was inserted to control the hydrocephalus. The lesion was resected through a transcallosal approach. The diagnosis of colloid cyst was assumed but pre and para operative discussions disclosed that the lesion was not at the foramen of Monro but in front, displacing the fornix backwards. A cavernoma was suggested. Follow-up CT shows restitutio ad integrum.

From Aristotle circa 350 BC...

The colloid cyst is a lesion behind the pillars of the fornix the present lesion is in front of the fornix, so the lesion cannot be a colloid cyst



CAUGHT IN THE CROSSFIRE: RADIATION-INDUCED OPTIC NEUROPATHY

KEVIN PETRECCA & DENIS MELANÇON

Radiation induced injuries can be devastating late complications of radiotherapy. We report here a patient who developed left eye visual acuity loss 13 months following whole brain radiotherapy. Hyperbaric oxygen therapy was used in an attempt to reverse the process.

A 59 year old woman received 30Gy of whole brain radiotherapy in 5 fractions following resection of a left orbitofrontal breast metastasis. Thirteen months later she noticed decreased left eye visual acuity. An MRI showed new T2 hyperintensity and gadolinium-enhancement in the left optic nerve proximal to the chiasm (Figure 1, D&E). Treatment with anticoagulants was unsuccessful at reversing this process which progressed to involve the right eye. Following a seven week course of hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT) the right eye vision returned to normal and the left eye vision improved as well, although not back to baseline normal level. The post HBOT MRI revealed decreased gadolinium enhancement in the left optic nerve (Figure 1, F&G).

The utility of HBOT in reversing radiation-induced optic neuropathy has been shown to be most effective when initiated within 72 hours of onset of visual loss, but not when initiated after 2 weeks (1). It is unclear whether the stabilization and improvement in vision reported here are direct results of HBOT or the natural evolution of the neuropathy. Notwithstanding, it appears prudent to rapidly diagnose and initiate treatment in patients suspected of developing radiation-induced neuropathy.

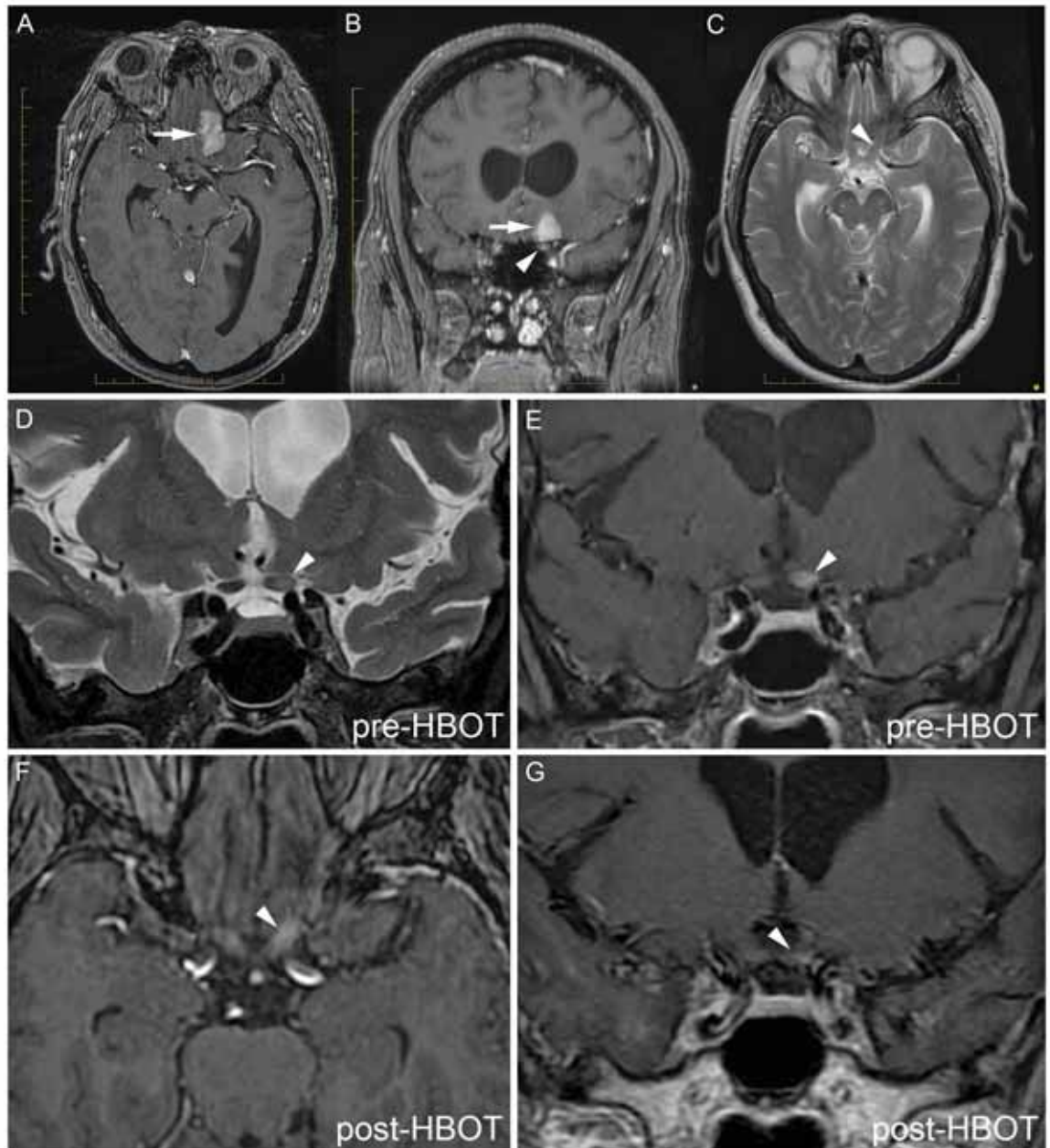


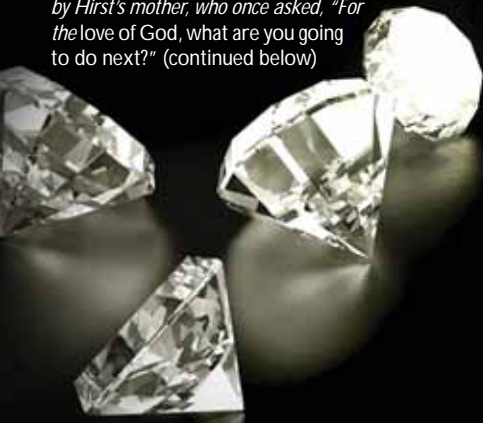
Figure 1. MRI images demonstrating radiation-induced signal changes in left optic nerve. A-C: Gadolinium-enhanced and T2-images showing orbitofrontal tumor and optic apparatus pretreatment. D-E: T2 and gadolinium-enhanced images showing new signal changes in left optic nerve 13 months following radiotherapy. F-G: Gadolinium-enhanced images showing a diminution in left optic nerve abnormal signal post-HBOT. Arrows-tumor, Arrowheads-left optic nerve.

75TH OF THE NEUROLOGICAL HOSPITAL & INSTITUTE THE DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY

JEAN-PAUL ACCO



"For the Love of God" is a sculpture by artist Damien Hirst produced in 2007. It consists of a platinum cast of a human skull encrusted with 8,601 flawless diamonds, including a pear-shaped pink diamond located in the forehead of the skull. Costing £14 million to produce, the work went on display at the White Cube gallery in London at an asking price of £50 million, which would have been the highest price ever paid for a single work by a living artist. The human skull used as the base for the work, bought in a shop in Islington, is thought to be that of a European living between 1720 and 1810. The work's title was supposedly inspired by Hirst's mother, who once asked, "For the love of God, what are you going to do next?" (continued below)



8,601 flawless pavé-laid diamonds, weighing in total 1,106.18 carats (221.24 g), over a platinum cast, cover the entirety of the skull, with the exception of the original teeth of the skull. At the centre of the forehead lies a pear-shaped pink diamond, the centrepiece of the work. All diamonds used for the work are said to be ethically sourced. (From Wikipedia)

When Dr. Melançon told me that he wanted the Neuro's 75th Anniversary to be the theme for this issue of NeuroImage, I immediately thought of diamonds. I get ideas for designing a cover by researching images from the internet and I fell upon an infinite supply of beautiful pictures of the sparkling stones. Then the diamond skull to your left appeared on my monitor and I was immediately obsessed with it. Firstly for the obvious reason that NeuroImage is a publication that discusses neuroradiology; and it was great serendipity to find an image that fits the bill for both neurology (the skull) and diamonds. However the image is also rather vulgar and looks more appropriate for a poster for a comeback tour of some obscure 1980's Heavy Metal Band. But my obsession continued and I tried to convince Dr. Melançon that it could be amusing to include this fascinating work of art as an extra entertaining tidbit. He agreed with me finally, but much to my horror asked me to write something about "For the love of God"; that is the name of Damien Hirst's sculpture you see to your left.

Perhaps heightened negative sensationalism sells more papers and commercial space; but the economic, political, and social climate that is currently portrayed in news media is making everything seem so bleak, dire and downright depressing, and rightly so for some people. Considering all this instability and panic, I found this work of art to be unbecoming yet intriguing. I mean, who can afford this artist's \$90 million(cdn) diamond skull? More surprising, I read on that he had actually sold it, albeit for a debatable price. You should look up this artist, he's a lot of fun. My point is that the only thing we know for sure about the future, is that it is uncertain. So I took my internet happenstance as a good omen that everything will be alright, because if you could sell a diamond skull, the future is not only bright but sparkling.

This year we celebrate the diamond anniversary of the Neuro; and at the moment there is a huge upheaval of architectural, medical and even academic transformations. I have faith that these dramatic changes will ensure that the Neuro's future remains both optimistic and sparkling. Furthermore, we will also celebrate the 75th birthday of Dr. Melançon, who I can tell you from a personal perspective, is a true diamond. For our department, it has been an honour and a pleasure to work for him over the years and I look forward to designing future NeuroImages. But before I proceed with the next issue, I encourage you to join me in wishing both the Neuro and our beloved Dr. Melançon, a very happy birthday, with many many happy returns.

CHEERS!

