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Authors: Jarelys M. Hernandez Jimenez, Kelia Vahdat, Ivan A. Serrano Santiago, Maria del Mar Morales Hernandez, Carmen L. Isache, Michael Sands

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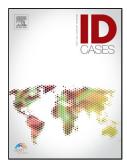
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## ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

### Thalamic Bacterial Abscess Presenting with Hemiparesis and Expressive Aphasia

Jarelys M. Hernandez Jimenez MD<sup>1</sup>, Kelia Vahdat MPAS<sup>2</sup>, Ivan A. Serrano Santiago MD<sup>1</sup>, Maria del Mar Morales Hernandez MD<sup>1</sup>, Carmen L. Isache MD<sup>1, 2</sup> and Michael Sands MD<sup>2</sup>

Department of Internal Medicine, General Internal Medicine Division, University of Florida College of Medicine, Jacksonville FL USA<sup>1</sup>

Department of Internal Medicine, Infectious Diseases Division, University of Florida College of Medicine, Jacksonville, FL USA<sup>2</sup>

Corresponding author:

E-mail: Jarelys.Hernandez@jax.ufl.edu

Present address: 655 West 8th Street Jacksonville FL USA 32209

#### **Abstract**

Brain abscesses are relative rare in the developing world, with an incidence of 2% of all space occupying lesions. Deep-seated abscesses such as thalamic and basal ganglia abscesses are much rarer than abscesses in other locations of the brain, comprising 1.3-6% of all brain abscesses. These abscesses may present with hemiparesis, and subcortical aphasia has only been reported in a few cases throughout the literature. Here we present and discuss a case of thalamic brain abscess caused by *S. anginosus* that presented with subcortical aphasia.

#### **Keywords:**

Thalamic abscess; subcortical aphasia; Streptococcus anginosus

#### Introduction

The *Streptococcus anginosus* group includes three taxonomically distinct species: *Streptococcus anginosus*, *Streptococcus intermedius* and *Streptococcus constellatus*. These organisms are found as commensal flora of the oropharyngeal, gastrointestinal and urogenital tract, but they can become pathogenic and unlike most other alpha-hemolytic streptococci cause contiguous or metastatic infection after mucosal disruption.(1) Of the three species, *S. anginosus* shows the greatest propensity for metastatic dissemination.

Brain abscesses are relatively rare in the developing world, with an incidence of 2% of all space occupying lesions.(2) Deep-seated abscesses such as thalamic and basal ganglia abscesses are much rarer than abscesses in other locations of the brain with reported incidences ranging from 1.3-6% of all brain abscesses.(3), (4), (5), (6), (7) We present and discuss a case of thalamic brain abscess caused by *S. anginosus* that presented with subcortical aphasia.

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