

# The High-Stakes Gamble of Neglect: Financial Barriers, Systemic Failures And The Deadly Gamble Of Aneurysm Cranial Nerve III Palsy

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## INTRODUCTION

- ✓ Oculomotor nerve (CN III) palsy affects eye movement, position, and pupillary function.<sup>[1]</sup>
- ✓ It is commonly caused by microvascular ischemia in older adults, and by aneurysms, trauma, or demyelinating diseases in younger individuals.<sup>[1]</sup>
- ✓ **The gold standard of diagnosing CNIII palsy remain cerebral angiography** however, diagnosis involves neuroimaging (MRI, MRA, CTA), with DSA used for suspected vascular causes.<sup>[3][4]</sup>
- ✓ Treatment depends on the cause, from managing risk factors to surgical intervention for aneurysms.<sup>[3][8]</sup>



## CASE DESCRIPTION:

- ✓ A 36-year-old woman with oculomotor (CN III) palsy presented with ptosis, eye deviation, and visual issues.
- ✓ Initial public imaging was inconclusive, but a private MRI revealed a 5.5 mm aneurysm in the right posterior communicating artery.
- ✓ She was urgently referred to neurosurgical team for neurosurgery clipping

## DISCUSSION:

- ✓ Oculomotor nerve (CN III) palsy can be caused by compressive aneurysms, especially the **posterior communicating artery (PCOM)**, which carry a high risk of rupture.<sup>[4]</sup>
- ✓ Early imaging (MRI, MRA, CTA) is crucial, but **limited public access may delay diagnosis.**<sup>[9]</sup>
- ✓ Although cerebral angiography is the most accurate, it is invasive, leading to reliance on less sensitive, non-invasive methods.<sup>[5][6][7][8]</sup>
- ✓ Imaging choice should consider the patient's risk, and angiography may be required if initial results are inconclusive in high-risk cases.<sup>[3][4]</sup>

## CONCLUSION:

- ✓ Timely diagnosis and treatment of aneurysmal CN III palsy are essential.
- ✓ This case highlights inequities in public healthcare, especially in developing countries, and emphasizes the need for policy reform, better funding, and improved access to diagnostic imaging to prevent dangerous delays.

## REFERENCES:

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