A patient with focal rt patiero-occipital atrophy in the right cerebral hemisphere

- Comparison with dementia of Alzheimer type and frontotemporal dementia-

Masako Kudoh, Hisashi Yonezawa, Satoshi Takahashi, Junko Takahashi, Satoko Obara, Toshihide Shibata and Yasuo Terayama

Department of Neurology and gerontology, Iwate Medical University.

19-1 Uchimaru, Morioka, Iwate, 020-8505 Japan

Abstract

We report a 65-year-old woman who presented progressive left hemispatial neglect and left hemianopsia and focal parietooccipital atrophy in the right cerebral hemisphere. The patient noticed that difficulty in seeing the left side during driving since a year ago. Neurological examination revealed mild left hemispatial neglect and left hemianopsia while the other higher cortical dysfunction including memory disturbance was observed. MRI showed focal atrophy in the right parietal and occipital lobe without any vascular abnormality including posterior cererbral artery on MRA. The steady-state ¹⁵O technique at positron emission tomography (PET) showed marked to mild decrease in regional cerebral blood flow (rCBF), oxygen metabolism (rCMRO₂) and oxygen extraction (rOEF) in the right parietooccipital cortex. The patient is still showing only left hemispatial neglect and left hemianopsia and mild constructional agnosia without any memory disturbance and other higher cortical dysfunction even the three years later from the onset. Our case does not match any diagnostic criteria of neurodegenerative disorders with focal brain atrophy with focal brain atrophy such as frontotemporal lober degeneration (FTLD) and visual variant of Alzheimer's disease (vvAD), suggesting the possibility the new clinical entity of dementia caused by neurodegenerative disorders.