Case 2004-10

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Diagnosis: Dissection of the right vertebral artery (V3 segment) and traumatic pseudoaneurysm of the left vertebral artery (V4 segment) distal to the posterior inferior cerebellar artery (PICA).

Comment: The “treatment” mentioned in the protocol was massage given by an aide to a chiropractor, while the chiropractor was out of the office. The dissecting aneurysm of the right vertebral artery extended for 3 to 4 cm, from C3 up to C1. Electron microscopy failed to demonstrate spiraled collagen that is typical for Ehlers-Danlos syndrome in the vessel with the dissection. Dissection has been described previously following neck manipulation, but pseudoaneurysm had not been seen previously in this setting.

References:
