



Wing 12



Reparto Immaturi 1938



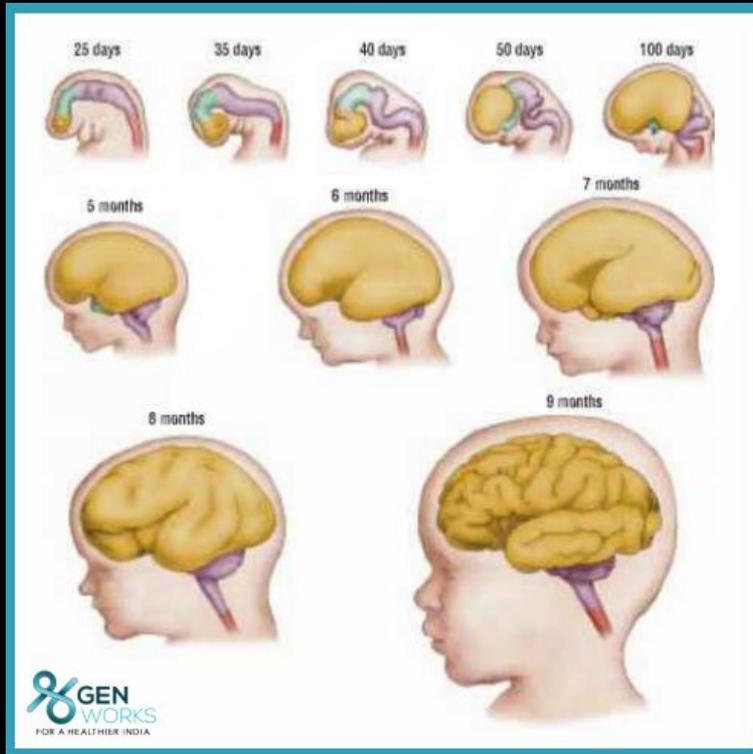
Istituto Pediatrico  
"Giannina Gaslini"  
IRCCS Genova

Patologia e Terapia  
Intensiva Neonatale

Luca A. Ramenghi MD PhD

# IPOGLICEMIA E DANNO CEREBRALE NEONATALE





INSULTO

DANNO

LESIONE



# THE MANAGEMENT OF PREGNANCY AND THE NEWBORN INFANT OF DIABETIC MOTHERS<sup>1</sup>

ROBERT M. GRIER, M.D. and ALVAH L. NEWCOMB, M.D.

The newborn infant of the diabetic woman is usually large, edematous, and icteric. Respiratory embarrassment, instability of the blood sugar and erythroblastosis are often present. These signs and symptoms appear more frequently in the babies of the mothers who have been diabetic for a long period.



<sup>1</sup>From the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and Pediatrics, Northwestern University Medical School. Received for publication, May 26, 1951.

*Annotation*

*Archives of Disease in Childhood*, 1972, **47**, 679.

R. D. G. MILNER

Department of Child Health,  
University of Manchester,  
St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester 13 OJH.

## Neonatal Hypoglycaemia—A Critical Reappraisal

### HYPOGLYCEMIA AND BRAIN DEVELOPMENT

**H. Peter Chase, M.D., Robert A. Marlow, B.A., Carol S. Dabiere, B.S.,  
and N. Noreen Welch, B.A.**  
Pediatrics,  
52:513, 1973

*From the University of Colorado Medical Center, Denver, Colorado*

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**ABSTRACT.** Though hypoglycemia has been a common clinical condition known to affect human brain development, little has been done to define the resultant brain biochemical alterations. Because a controlled study of hypoglycemia in the newborn human infant is impossible, the infant rat was chosen as a model. Hypoglycemia induced once daily for 18 days following birth resulted in a generalized diminution of brain weight, cellularity, and protein content. The rate of formation of the

myelin lipid sulfatide was decreased, as was the quantity of cerebroside-sulfatide in brains of hypoglycemic animals. Phospholipids, gangliosides, and cholesterol were decreased only in proportion to the decrease in brain weight. Brain glucose and glycogen concentrations were low in the brains of hypoglycemic animals, although ATP and phosphocreatine levels were not decreased. *Pediatrics*, 52:513, 1973, HYPOGLYCEMIA, BRAIN DEVELOPMENT, BRAIN DNA, BRAIN PROTEIN, BRAIN LIPIDS.

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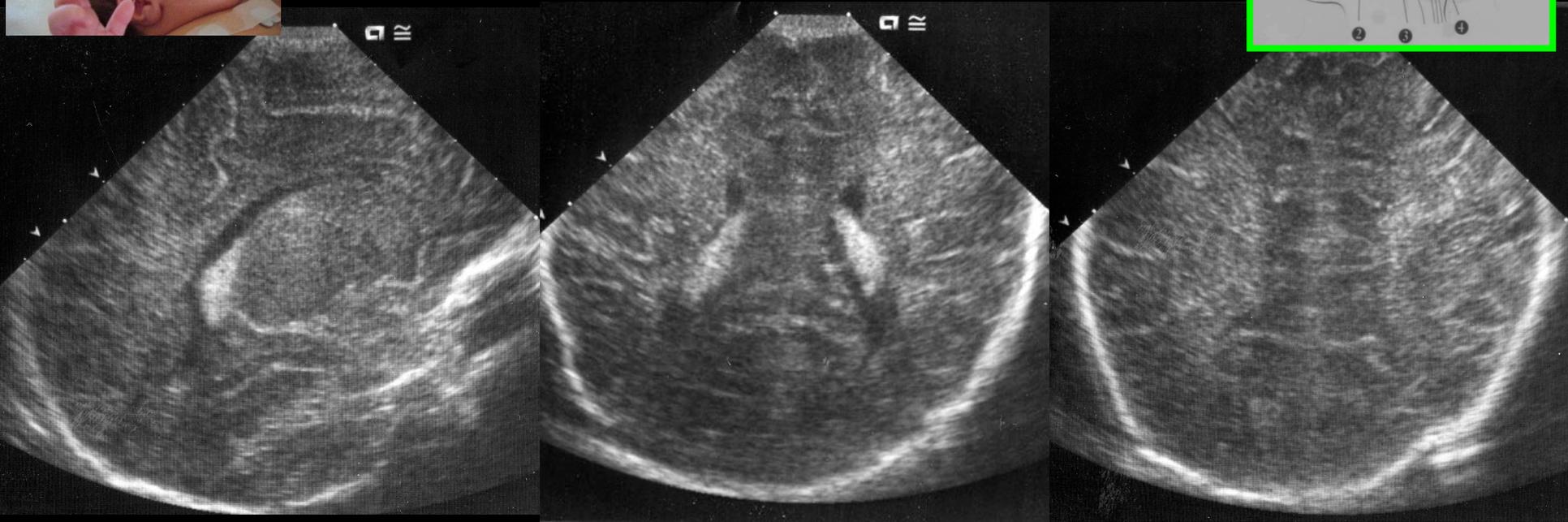
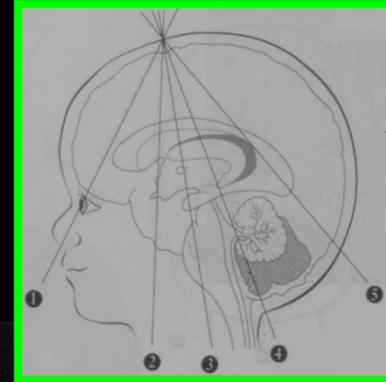
There is no doubt that severe,  
persistent hypoglycaemia can  
cause seizures and brain injury in  
newborns

*Jane Harding et al. An emerging evidence base for the management of neonatal hypoglycaemia Early Human Develop 2017*

35 wks, US at 48 hrs  
1 hour after severe apnea  
**Severe hypoglycaemia**

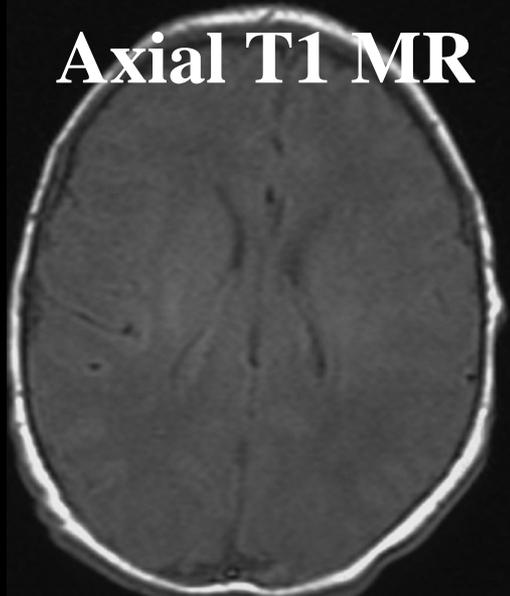
(4 mg / dl !!)

No clear fits but "hypotonic and later flat"  
Resuscitated, abnormal EEG



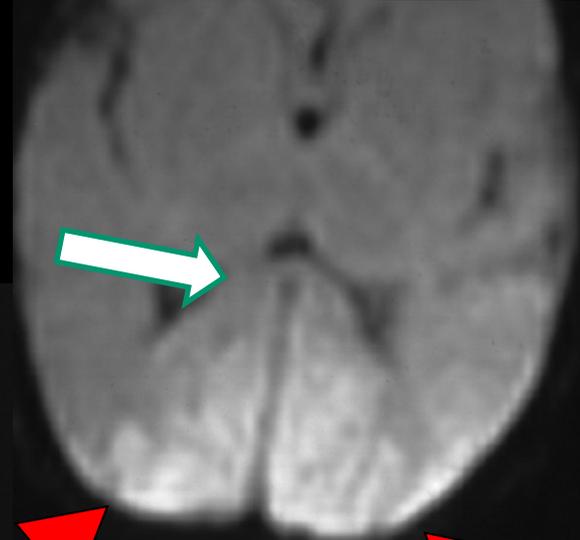
Mangiagalli (Milan) data

# Conventional Axial T1 MR

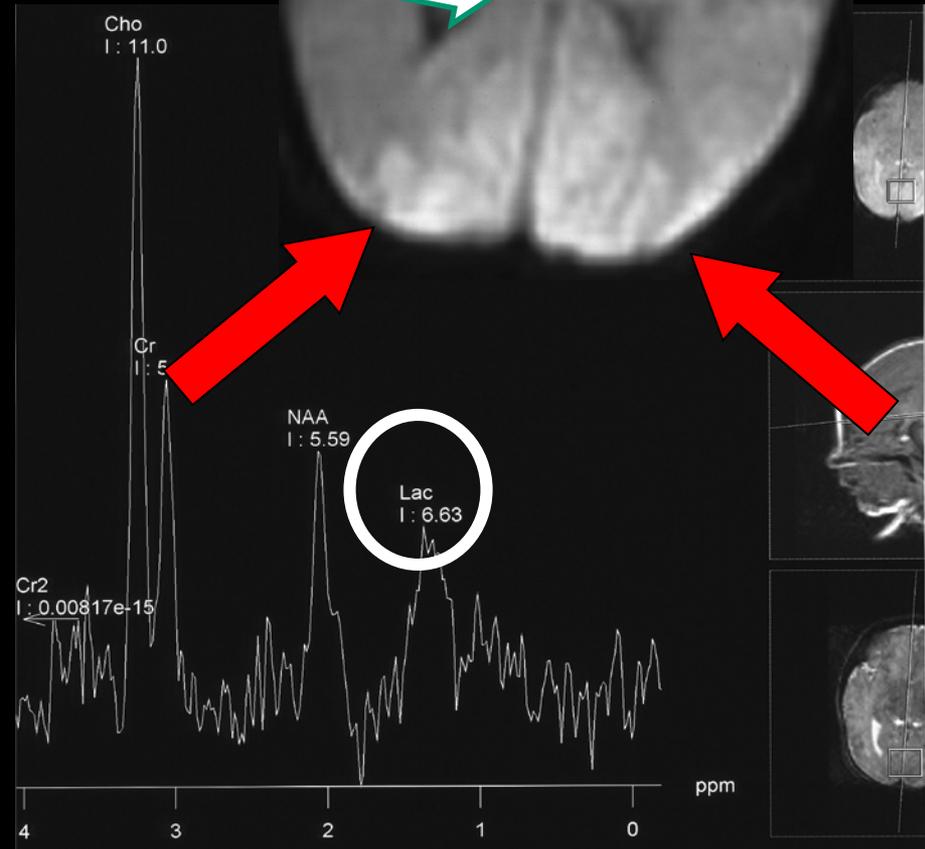
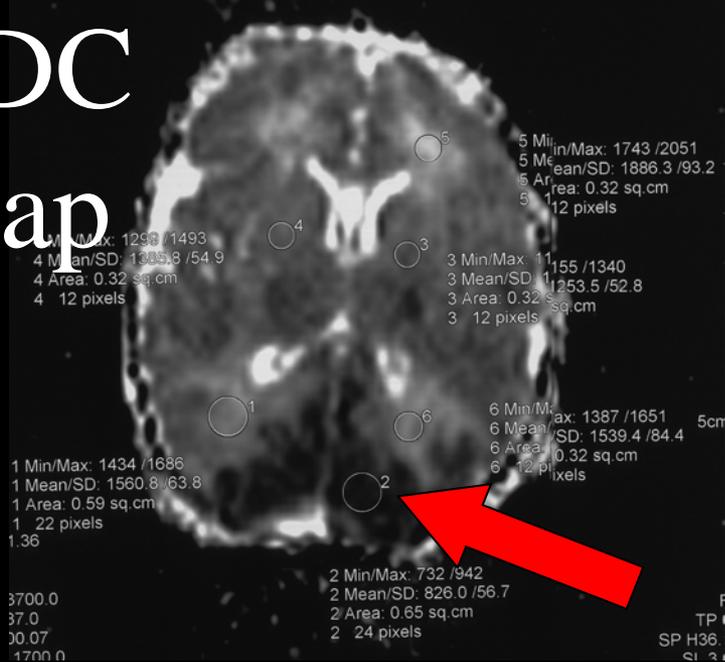


MR 2 hrs after  
**Hypoglycaemia**

# DWI



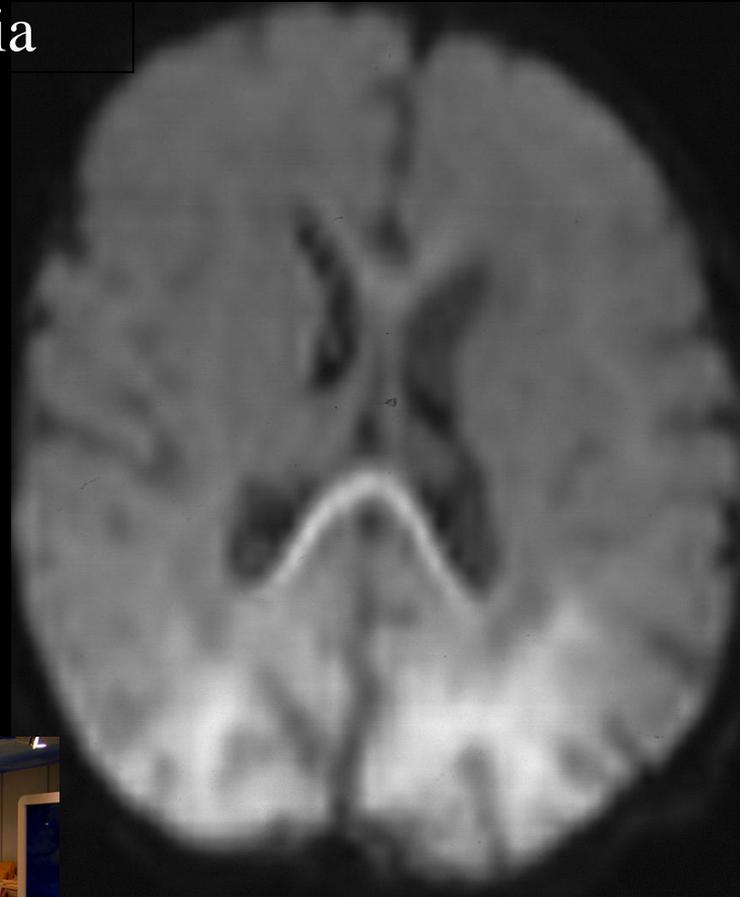
# ADC map



Axial T1

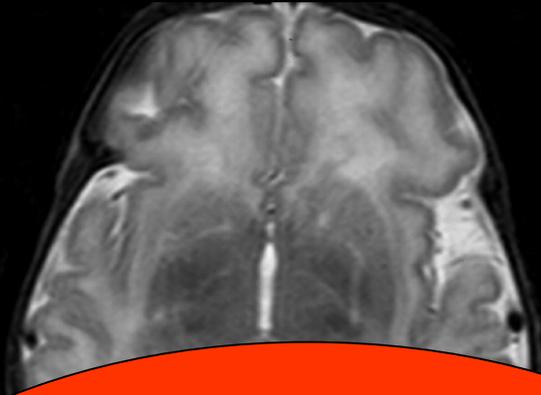
Policitemia  
Ipoglicemia

DWI



After one week .... Still DWI anomaly, more obvious  
T1 weighted starts to be abnormal

T2  
at day 5



ADC  
at day

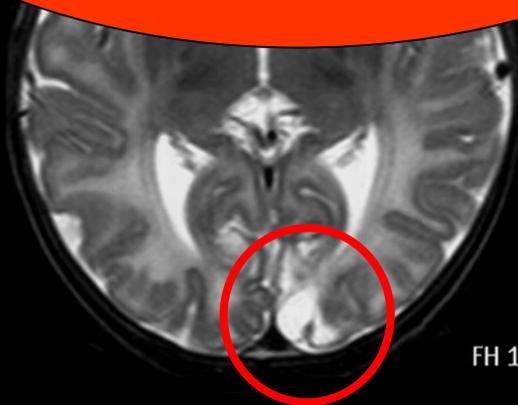


- Movimenti non coniugati
- ↓ campi visivi a destra
- iperfissazione

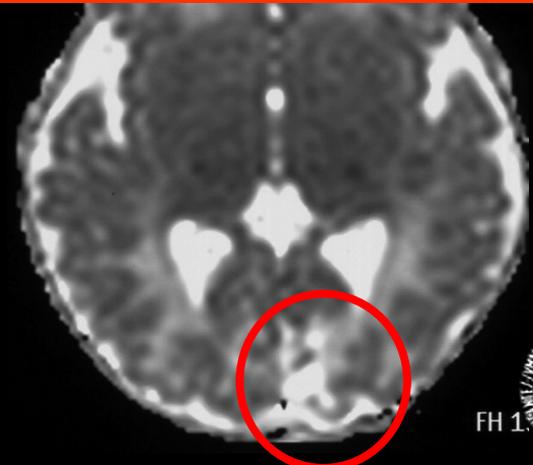


AD  
After

*Ricci et, "Early assessment of visual function in full term newborns", 2007*



FH 14

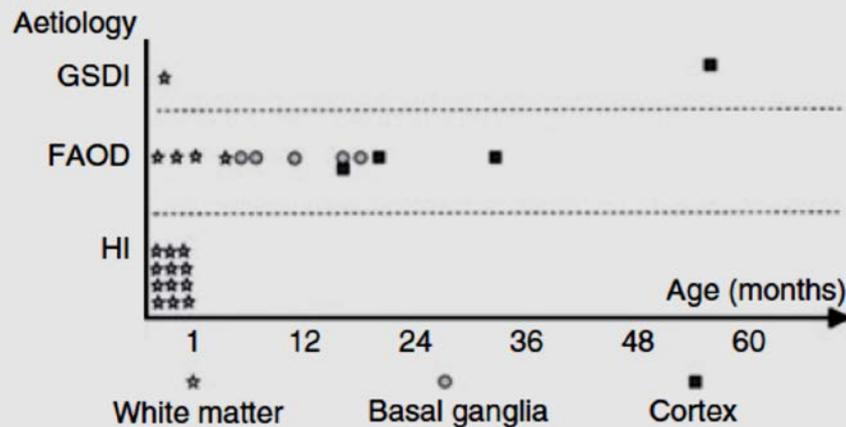


FH 14



# Topography of brain damage in metabolic hypoglycaemia is determined by age at which hypoglycaemia occurred

SVETLANA GATAULLINA<sup>1</sup> | PASCALE DE LONLAY<sup>2</sup> | GEORGES DELLATOLAS<sup>3</sup> | VASSILI VALAYANNAPOULOS<sup>4</sup> | SILVIA NAPURI<sup>5</sup> | LÉNA DAMAJ<sup>5</sup> | GUY TOUATI<sup>2</sup> | CECILA ALTUZARRA<sup>6</sup> | OLIVIER DULAC<sup>7</sup> | NATHALIE BODDAERT<sup>8</sup>



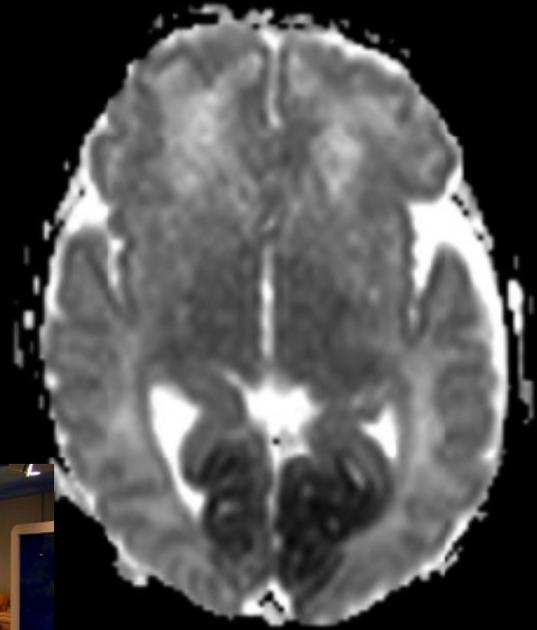
**Figure 2:** Topography of brain lesions according to age at onset of symptomatic hypoglycaemia and aetiology (white matter damage vs basal ganglia, with or without cortex vs cortex). GSDI, glycogen storage disease type I; FAOD, fatty acid  $\beta$ -oxidation defect; HI, hyperintensity.

The topography of the brain lesions depended on age: from the neonatal period to 6 months of age, lesions predominantly involved the posterior whitematter; between 6 and 22 months the basal ganglia, and after 22 months the parietotemporal cortex ( $p=0.04$ ).

## What this paper adds

- Topography of brain damage is mainly determined by age at occurrence of complicated hypoglycaemia.
- This age relationship is consistent with the physiological sequence of brain maturation.

Some patients  
have a limited  
injury...



...Others have a  
more extensive  
damage with high risk  
of neurological and  
visual sequelae...



# Occipital Lobe Injury and Cortical Visual Outcomes After Neonatal Hypoglycemia

Emily W. Y. Tam, MDCM<sup>a</sup>, Elysa Widjaja, MD, FRCP<sup>b</sup>, Susan I. Blaser, MD, FRCP(C)<sup>b</sup>, Daune L. MacGregor, MD, FRCP(C)<sup>a</sup>, Prakash Satodia, MD, FRCPCH<sup>c</sup>, Aideen M. Moore, MD, FRCP(C), MHSc<sup>d</sup>

Department of Pediatrics, Divisions of <sup>a</sup>Neurology and <sup>d</sup>Neonatology, and <sup>b</sup>Department of Diagnostic Imaging, Division of Neuroradiology, Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Ontario, Canada; <sup>c</sup>Department of Pediatrics, Division of Neonatology, University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire National Health Service Trust, Coventry, England

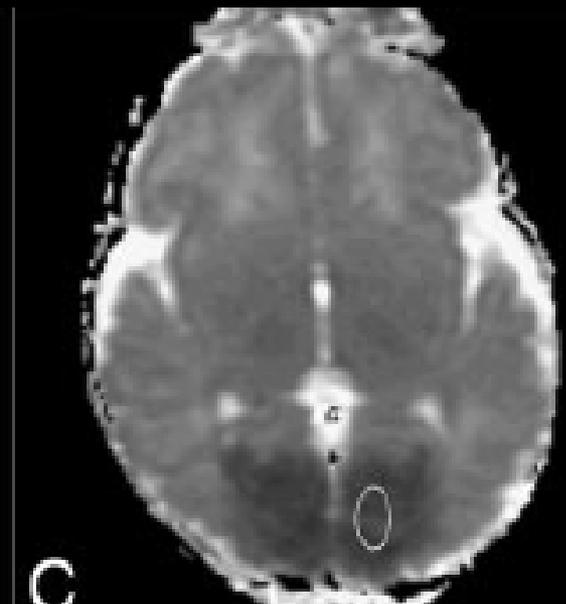
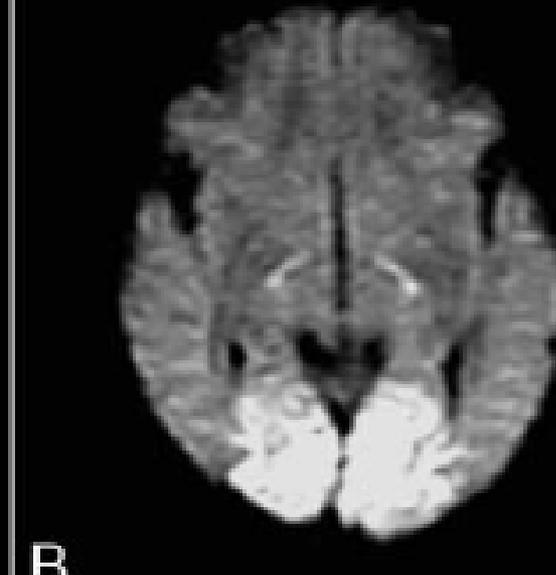
The authors have indicated they have no financial relationships relevant to this article to disclose.

## What's Known on This Subject

Short- and long-term neurologic effects, including optic nerve hypoplasia and visual deficits, after significant neonatal hypoglycemia have been reported. Recent neuroradiologic studies have shown occipitally predominant diffusion restriction associated with neonatal hypoglycemia.

**TABLE 1** Demographic Data for Term and Preterm Subjects

	Term Neonates	Preterm Neonates
Gestational age at birth, median (range), wk	40.0 (37.0–41.0)	36.0 (35.0–36.9)
Birth weight, median (range), g	3117 (1940–5370)	2680 (1420–4185)
Lowest blood glucose level, median (range), mmol/L	1.2 (0–2.1)	0.8 (0–2.1)
Time with hypoglycemia, median (range), d	2 (1–6)	1 (1–8)



Diffusion-weighted imaging studies performed within 6 days after initial hypoglycemia were sensitive in term but not preterm neonates. Diffusion restriction, with low apparent diffusion coefficient values, in the mesial occipital poles **may indicate the prognosis for visual outcomes** in acute settings after neonatal hypoglycemia

cortical visual loss was documented for 6 (33%) of 18 infants with hypoglycemia measured on 2 days. No infants with hypoglycemia documented on a single day showed long-term visual loss

## Neonatal hypoglycaemia and visual development: a review

Nabin Paudel<sup>\*</sup>, Arijit Chakraborty<sup>\*,§</sup>, Nicola Anstice<sup>\*</sup>, Robert J Jacobs<sup>\*</sup>, Jo E Hegarty<sup>¶,#</sup>,  
Jane E Harding<sup>¶</sup>, and Benjamin Thompson<sup>\*,§</sup> for the CHYLD Study Group

Current evidence suggests that severe and prolonged NH can be associated with injury of brain areas involved in visual processing, although the effect of these injuries on later visual function is currently unclear. This may in part be due to the difficulty of testing vision in young children. Furthermore, the fact that NH is frequently accompanied by co-morbid conditions that can also impair neurological function complicates interpretation of the case-series and case-review studies that constitute much of the current literature.

Nine developing focal occipital epilepsy and two developing a Lennox-Gastaut syndrome. Seizure outcome was favourable in later childhood or adolescence in six out of nine children with occipital epilepsy, but in neither of the two children with generalized epilepsy

## What this paper adds

- Despite having bilateral occipital brain injury and neurological disability, six of the 11 children with epilepsy after neonatal hypoglycaemia had infrequent and potentially age-limited focal seizures.

*Variable outcome for epilepsy after neonatal hypoglycaemia*

*CHOONG YI FONG, A SIMON HARVEY DEVELOPMENTAL MEDICINE & CHILD NEUROLOGY 2014*

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## What this paper adds

- Despite having bilateral occipital brain injury and neurological disability, six of the 11 children with epilepsy after neonatal hypoglycaemia had infrequent and potentially age-limited focal seizures.

Many children with neonatal hypoglycaemia mild, focal epilepsy that may be ultimately age-limited, a point which has implications for counselling parents, choosing antiepileptic medications, and avoiding epilepsy surgery.

*Variable outcome for epilepsy after neonatal hypoglycaemia*

*CHOONG YI FONG, A SIMON HARVEY DEVELOPMENTAL MEDICINE & CHILD NEUROLOGY 2014*

# HYPOGLYCEMIA AWARENESS IN ADULTS



Neural circuits exist which sense declining glucose levels and restore euglycemia

When glucose levels fall below 80 mg/dl a sequential hormonal response is initiated to restore euglycemia

## HYPOGLYCEMIA AWARENESS

Neurogenic (e.g., palpitations, sweating) followed by neuroglycopenic (tired/drowsy, difficulty thinking) symptoms

Hypoglycemia awareness promotes behavioral responses such as feeding or glucose administration

American Academy  
of Pediatrics



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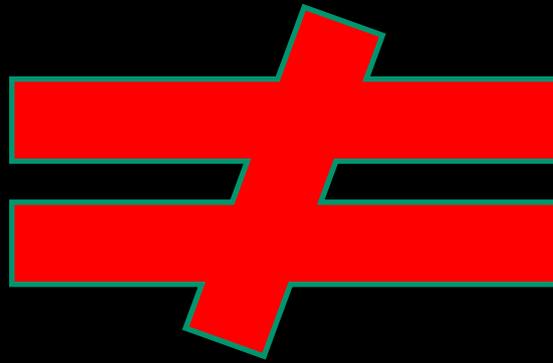


The American College of  
Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE PHYSICIANS

## Neonatal Encephalopathy

Clinically defined syndrome of disturbed neurologic function in the earliest days of life in an infant born at or beyond 35 weeks of gestation, manifested by a subnormal level of consciousness or seizures, and often accompanied by difficulty with initiating and maintaining respiration and depression of tone and reflexes.

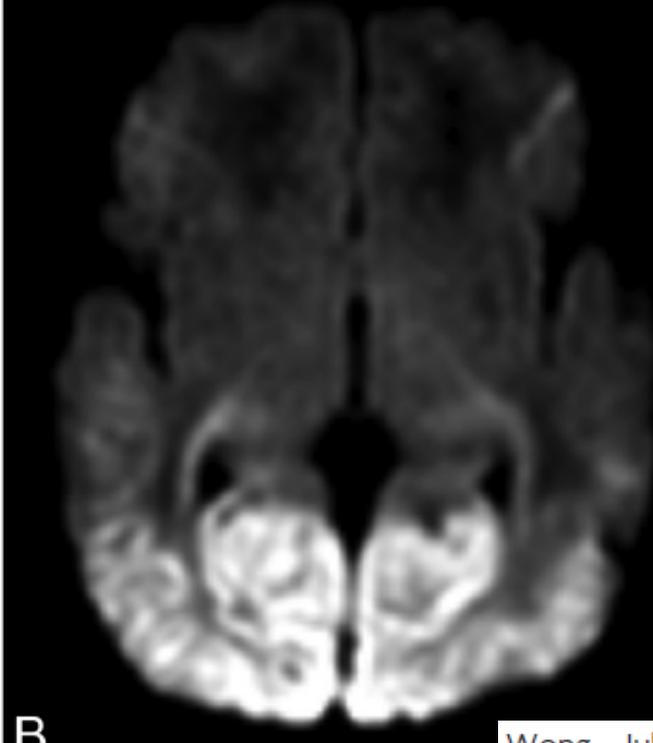
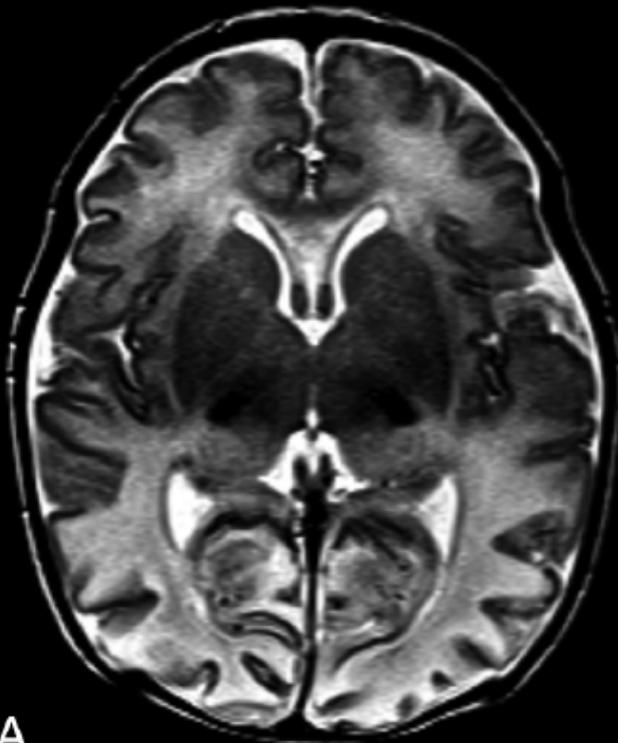
# Neonatal Encephalopathy



Asphyxia

# Brain Injury Patterns in Hypoglycemia in Neonatal Encephalopathy

D.S.T. Wong, K.J. Poskitt, V. Chau, S.P. Miller, E. Roland, A. Hill, and E.W.Y. Tam



# Contribution of the blood glucose level in perinatal asphyxia.

Basu P. Et al. *Eur J Pediatr* (2009) 168:833–838

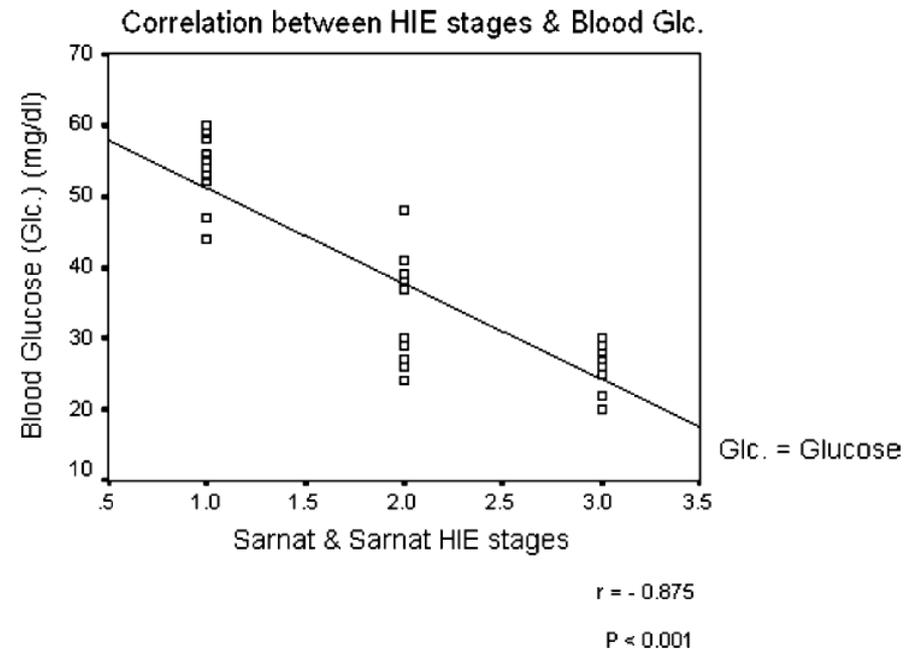
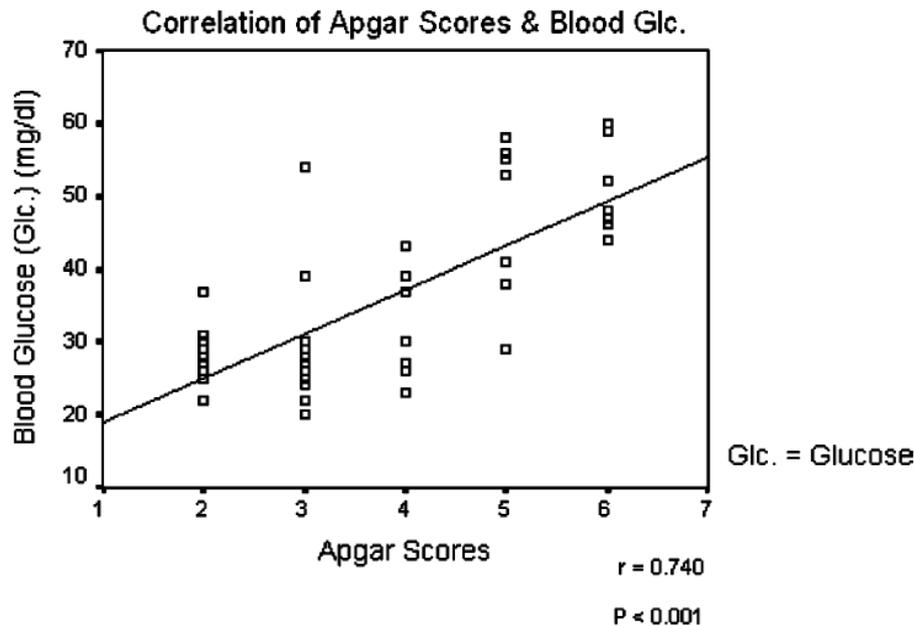
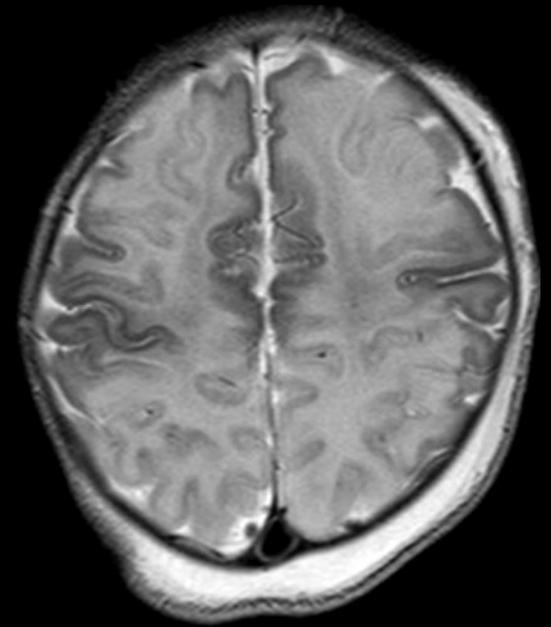
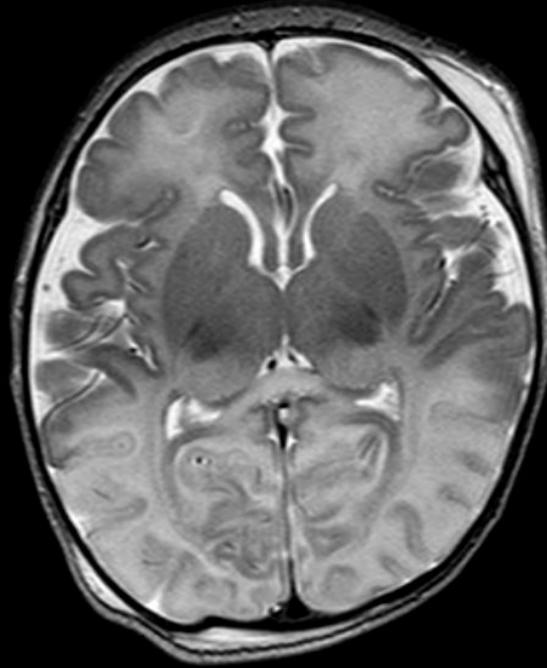
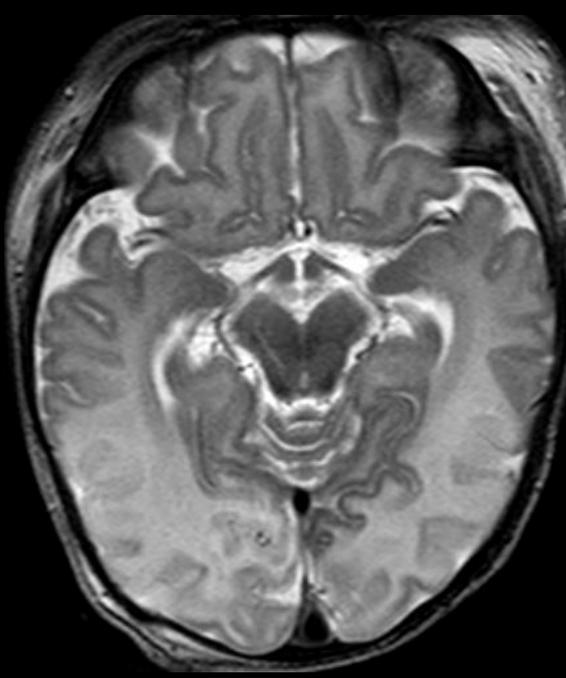
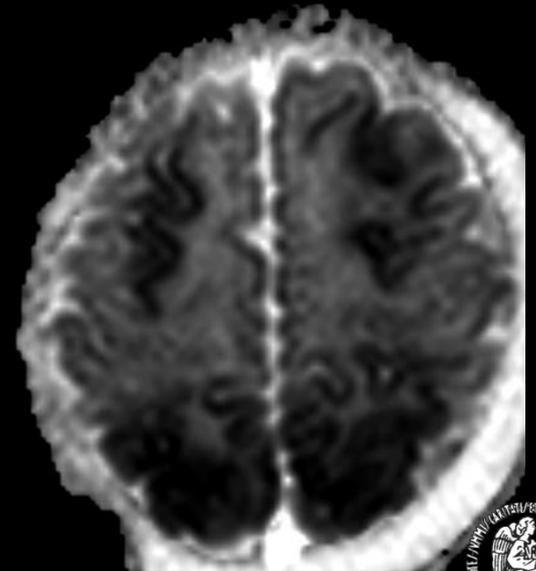
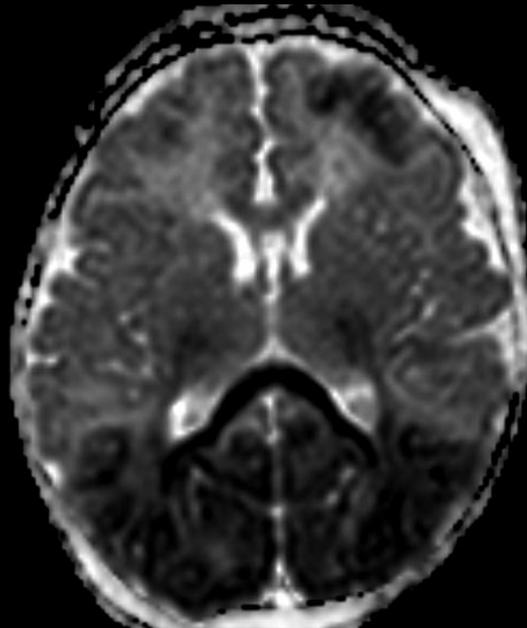
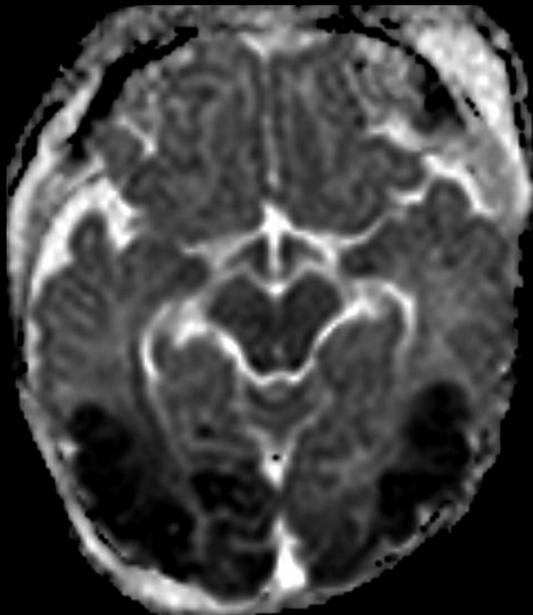


Fig. 2 Linear regression analysis shows the correlation between Apgar score and the blood glucose level in asphyxiated babies.  $r=0.740$ ,  $P<0.001$

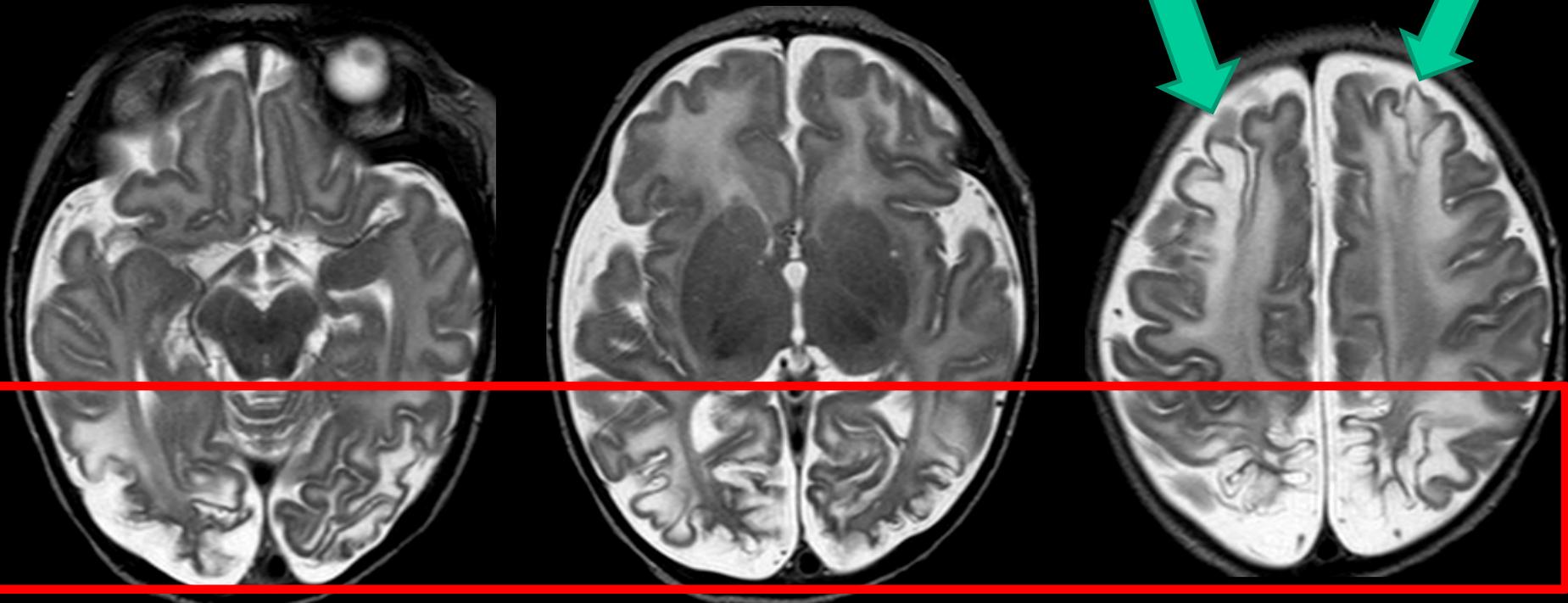
Fig. 3 Linear regression analysis shows the correlation between hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy (HIE) stages and the blood glucose level in asphyxiated babies.  $r=-0.875$ ,  $P<0.001$



MRI after cooling (day 5): **hypoglycaemia?**



Day 21



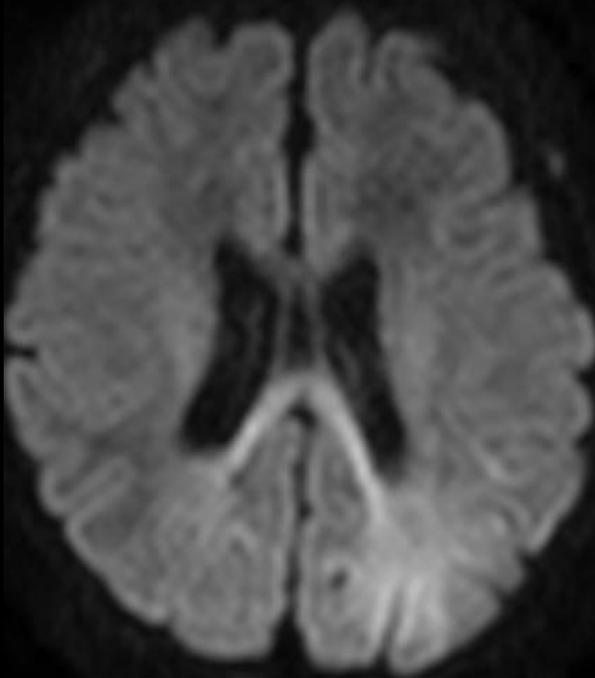
Hypoglycaemia + asphyxia



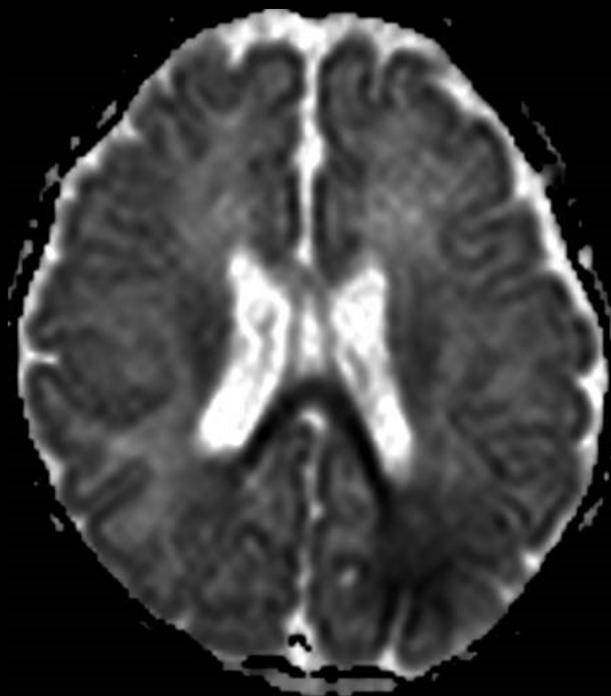
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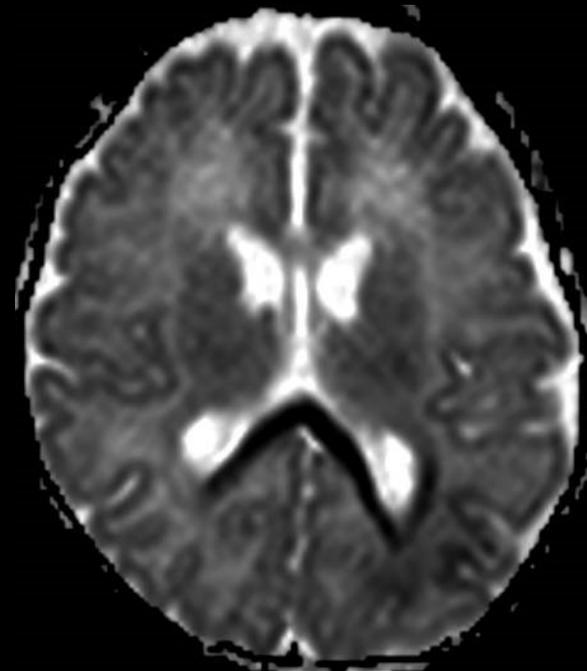
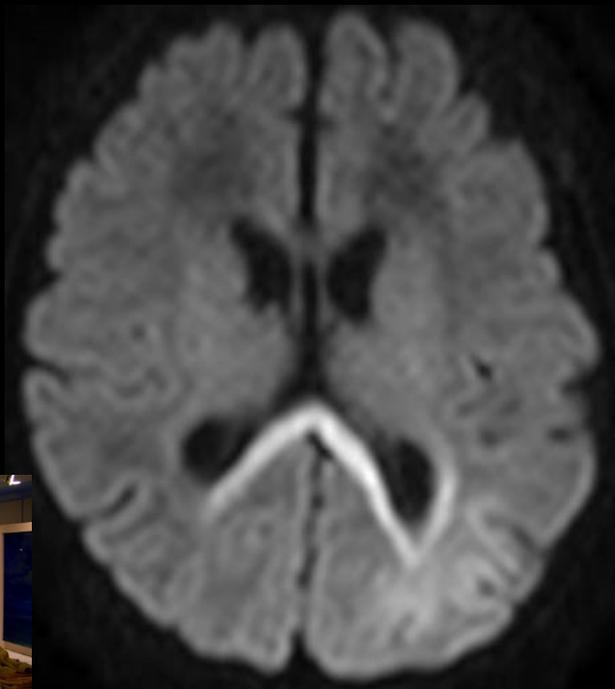


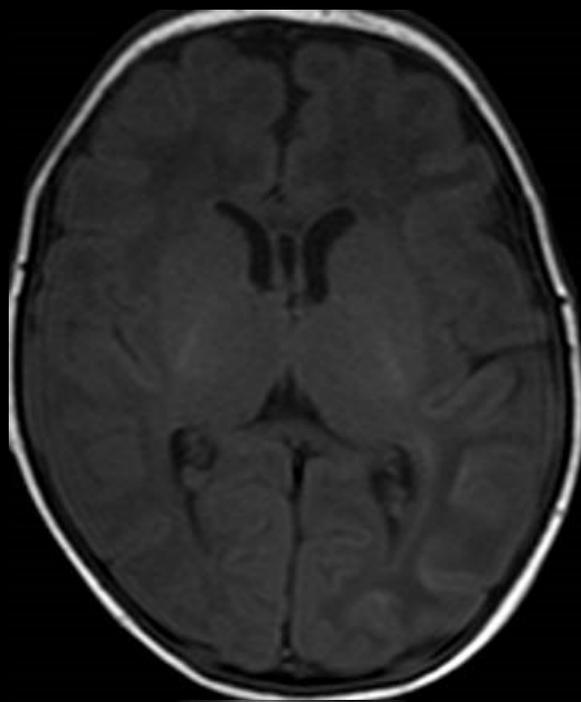


DWI

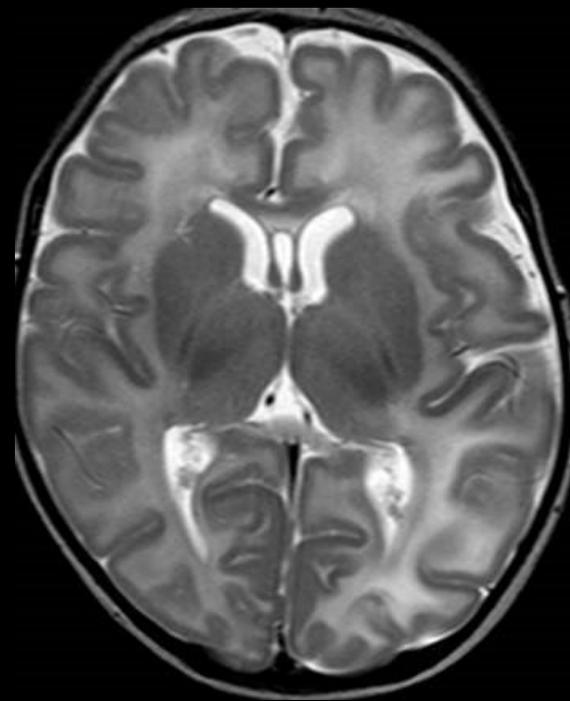


ADC

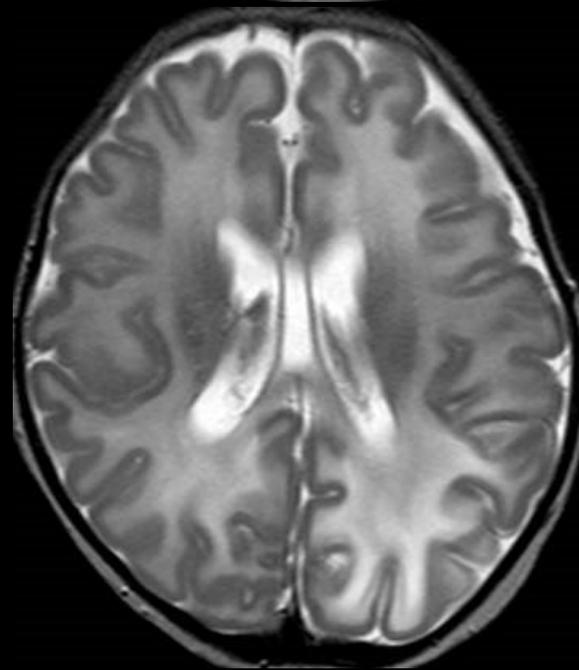
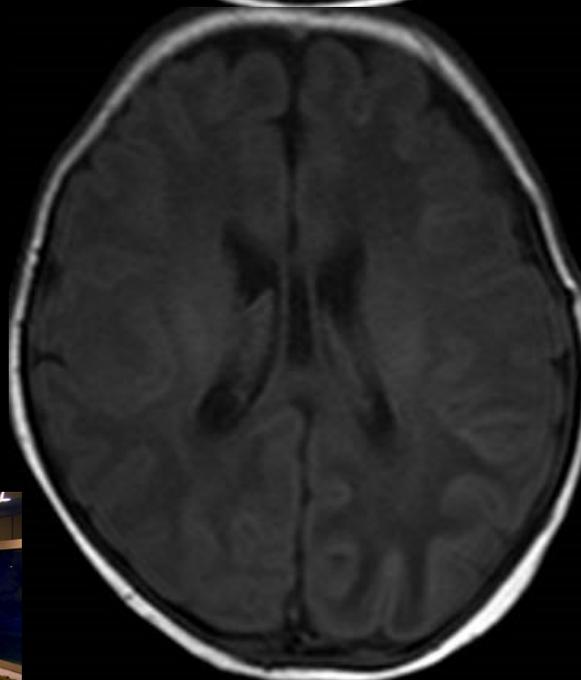




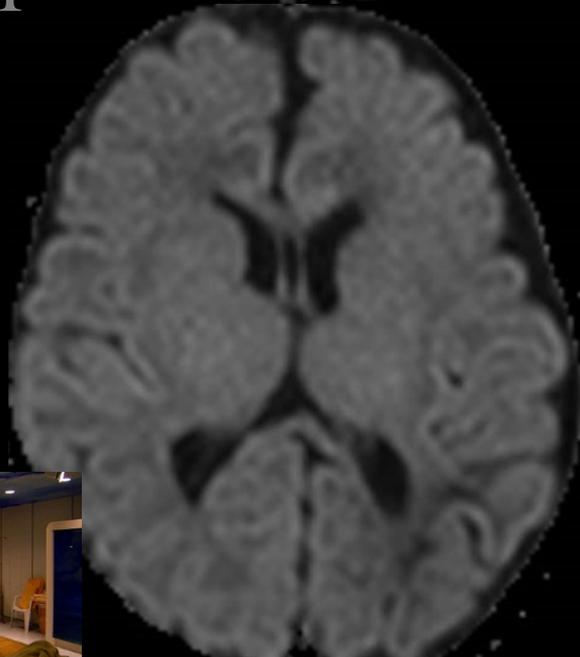
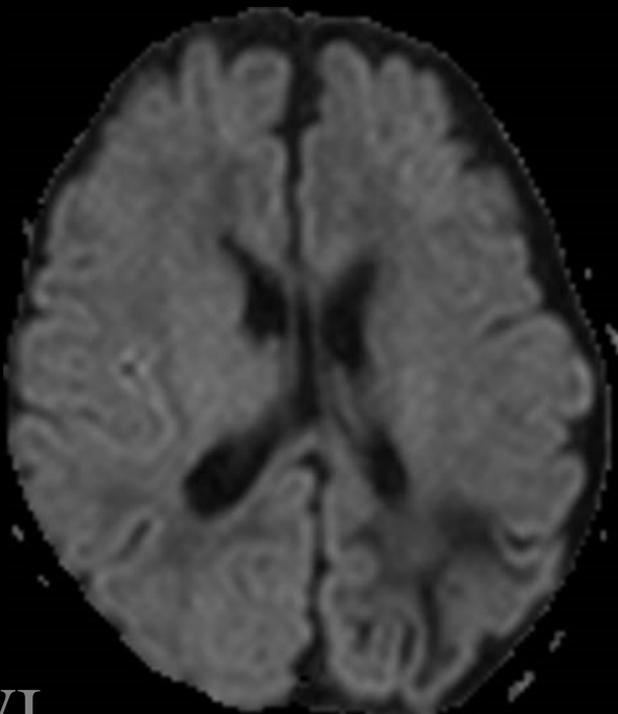
T1



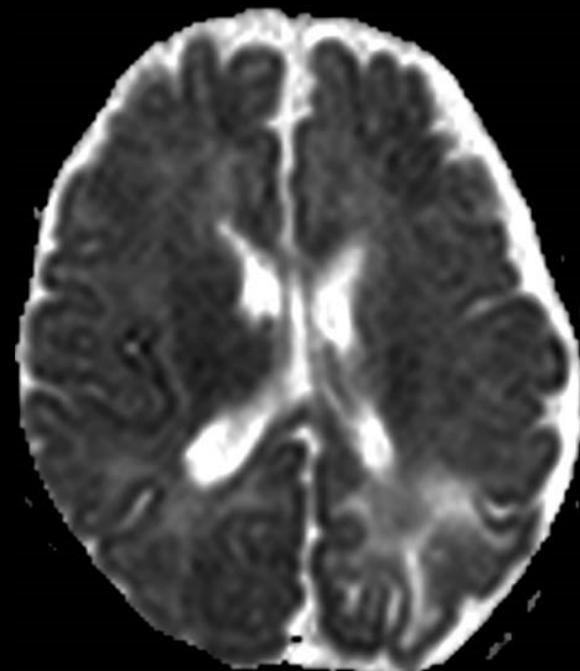
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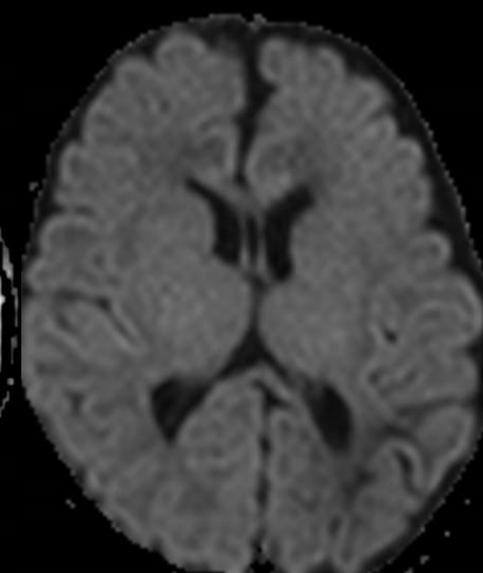
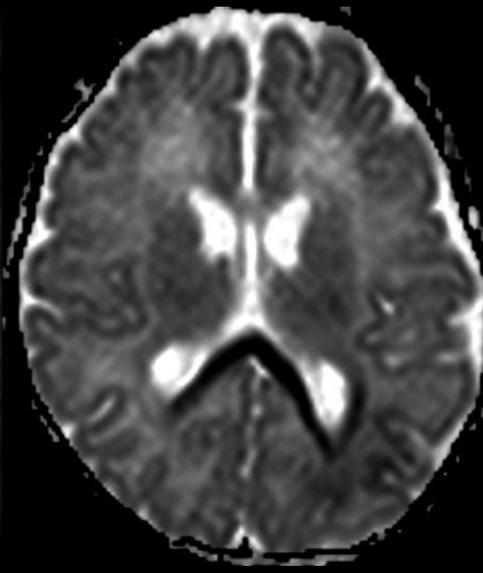
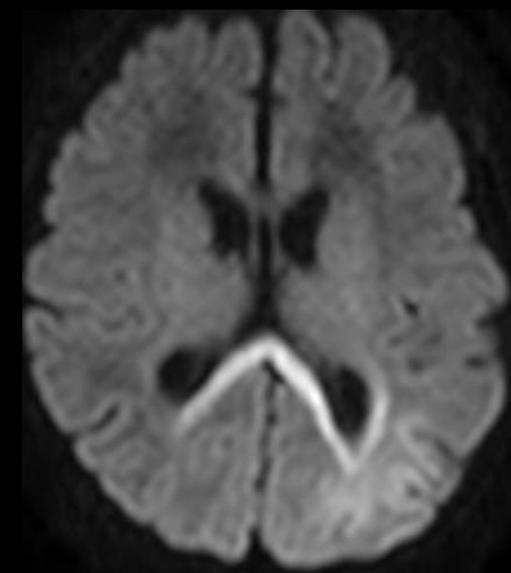


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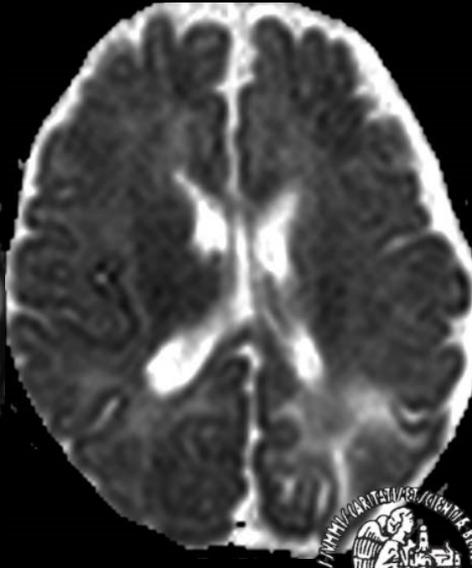
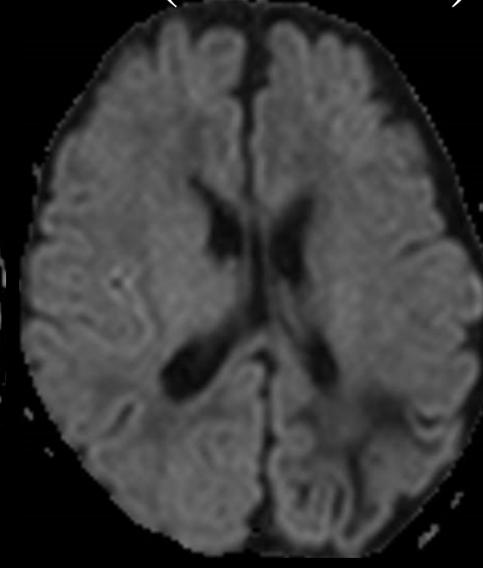
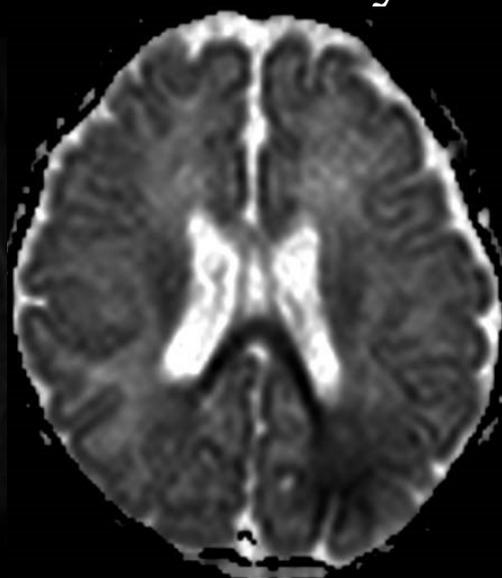
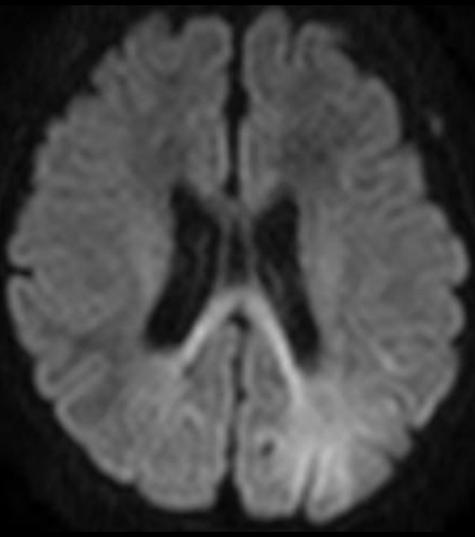


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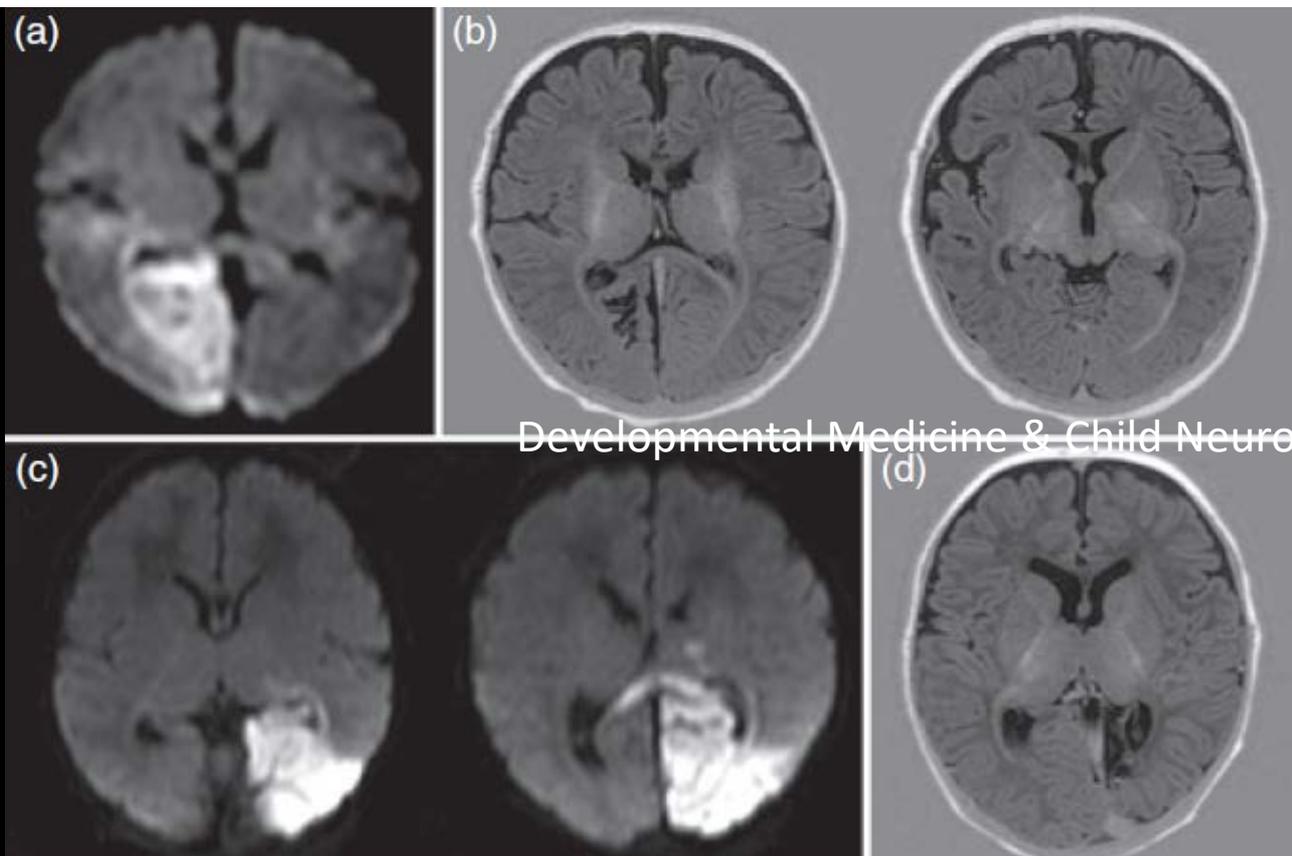
encephalopathy with a reversible splenic lesion (MERS) ?  
reversible splenic lesion syndrome (RESLES) ?



# Neonatal posterior cerebral artery stroke: clinical presentation, MRI findings, and outcome

NIEK E VAN DER AA<sup>1</sup> | JEROEN DUDINK<sup>2,3</sup> | MANON J N L BENDERS<sup>1</sup> | PAUL GOVAERT<sup>2</sup> |  
HENRICA L M VAN STRAATEN<sup>4</sup> | GIORGIO L PORRO<sup>5</sup> | FLORIS GROENENDAAL<sup>1</sup> | LINDA S DE VRIES<sup>1</sup>

**1** Department of Neonatology, Wilhelmina Children's Hospital, Utrecht; **2** Department of Neonatology, Sophia Children's Hospital, Rotterdam; **3** Department of Radiology, Erasmus Medical Centre, Rotterdam; **4** Department of Neonatology, Isala Clinics, Zwolle; **5** Department of Ophthalmology, University Medical Centre Utrecht, Utrecht, the Netherlands.



# Neonatal posterior cerebral artery stroke: clinical presentation, MRI findings, and outcome

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The clinical presentation of newborn infants, diagnosed with PAIS in the PCA territory, varies and often involves clinical seizures. Although many newborn infants were diagnosed with **hypoglycaemia**, its exact role in the pathogenesis of PCA stroke requires further investigation. Despite the overall good long-term neurodevelopmental outcome, follow-up of these infants is required, as development of a visual field is frequently observed.

Data	30/09/16					01/10													
Orario	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	3	6	9	10	12	15	18	21	24	6	10	
Pressione arteriosa	/																		
Temp. corporea	/																		
Temp. incubatore	/																		
Frequenza respiratoria	148		138				142										144		
Frequenza cardiaca	98						68										46		
SpO2	96		97				100										99		
Sede sensore saturaz.	PP		PP				PP										PP		
Dolore (scala utilizzata FLACC)	0		0				0										0		
Minzioni (BI / CD)	X		-				X		X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	/
Evacuazioni	X		-				/		X	/			X	/	/	/	/	/	/
Vomiti/Rigurgiti																			
Glucometer	48		39	38	46	49		68	69	39	78	52	54				65		
% calo ponderale																	7,1		
Quoziente energetico																			
Bilirubina cutanea	LP.																		
	Valore																		



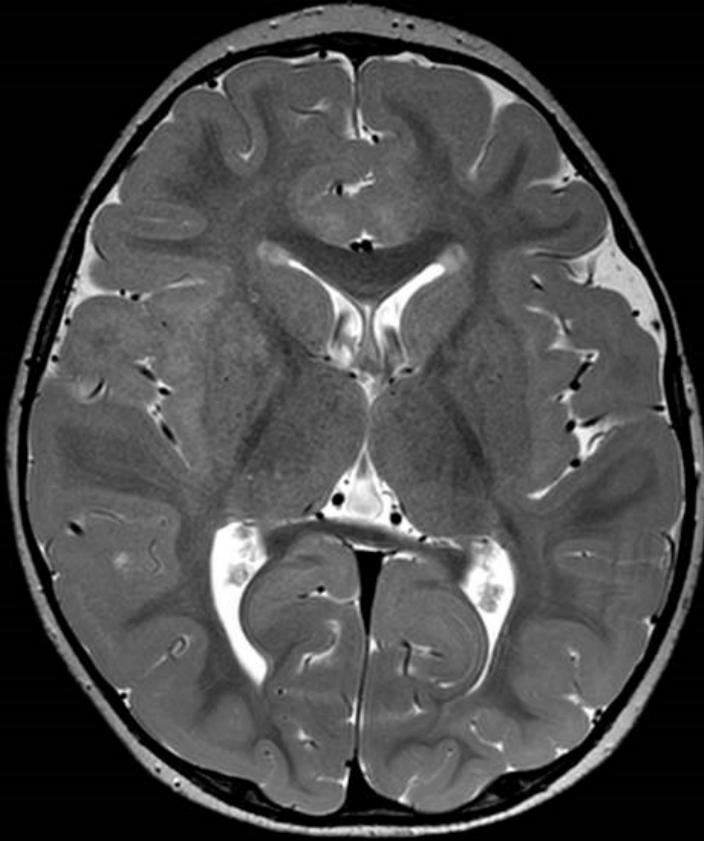
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Data/ora/età	30/09/16		01/10	
Peso (g.) / Sigla	4460		4140	
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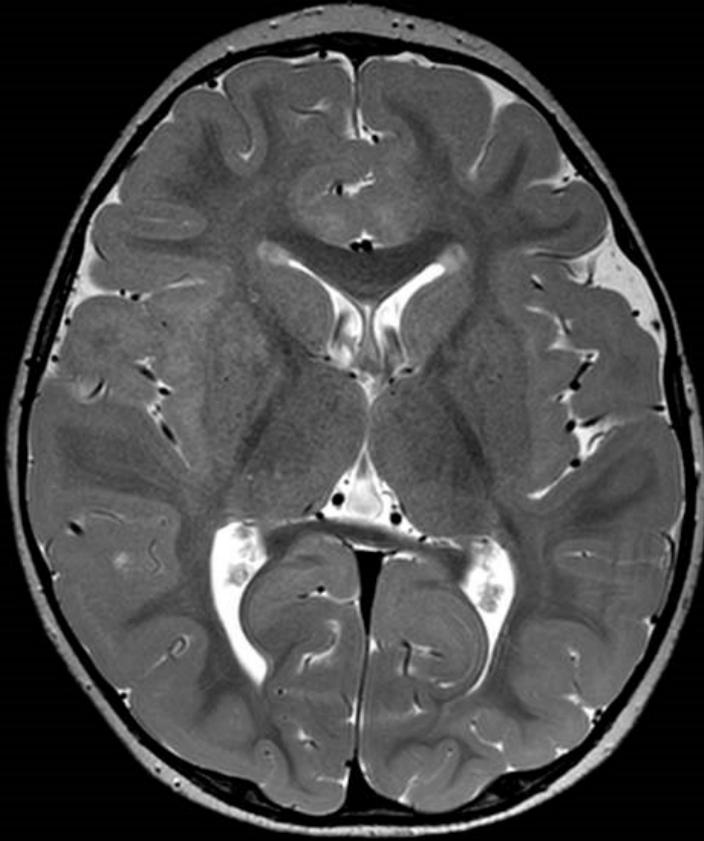




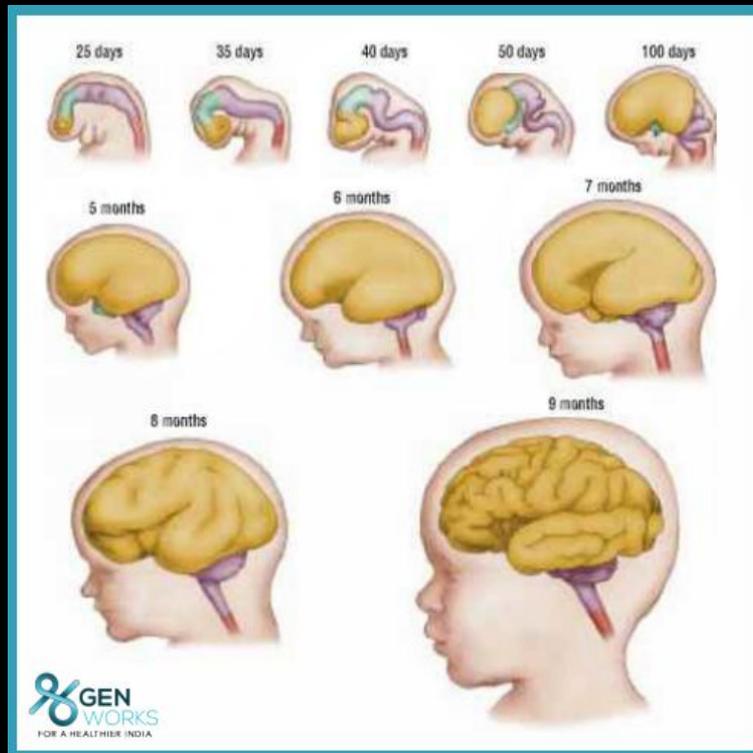
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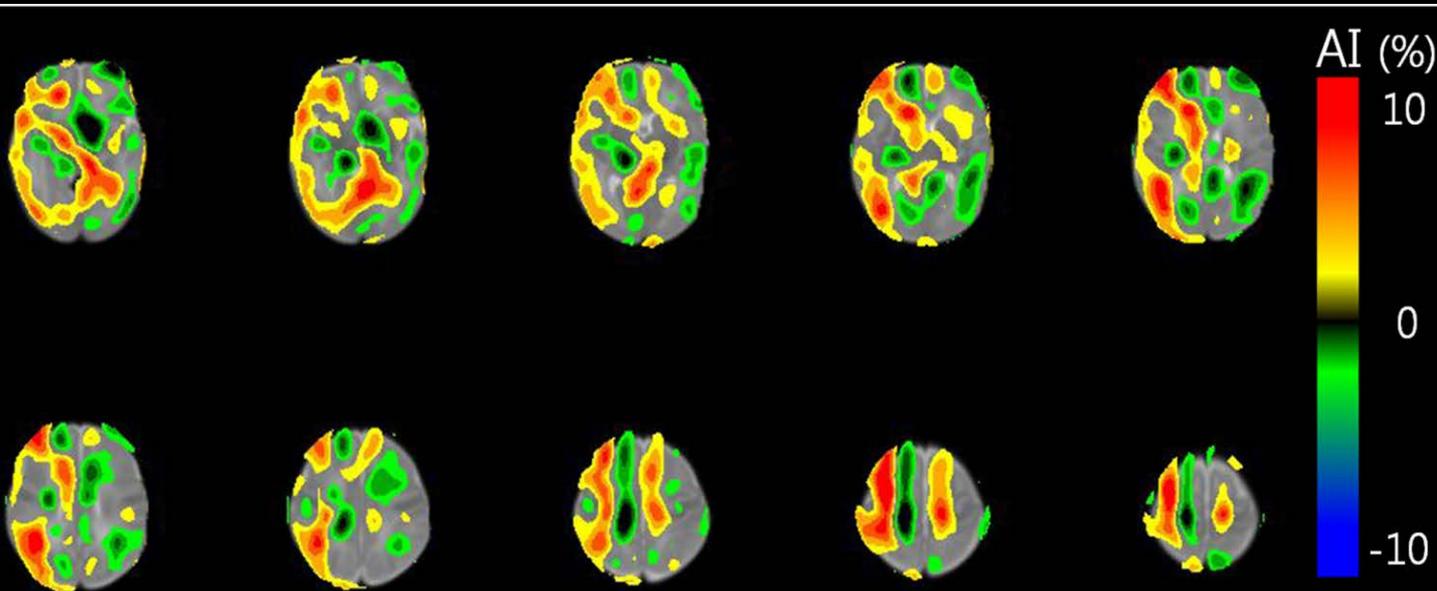


RESEARCH ARTICLE

# Asymmetry of cerebral glucose metabolism in very low-birth-weight infants without structural abnormalities

Jae Hyun Park<sup>1</sup>, Chun Soo Kim<sup>1</sup>, Kyoung Sook Won<sup>2</sup>, Jungsu S. Oh<sup>3</sup>, Jae Seung Kim<sup>3</sup>, Hae Won Kim<sup>2\*</sup>

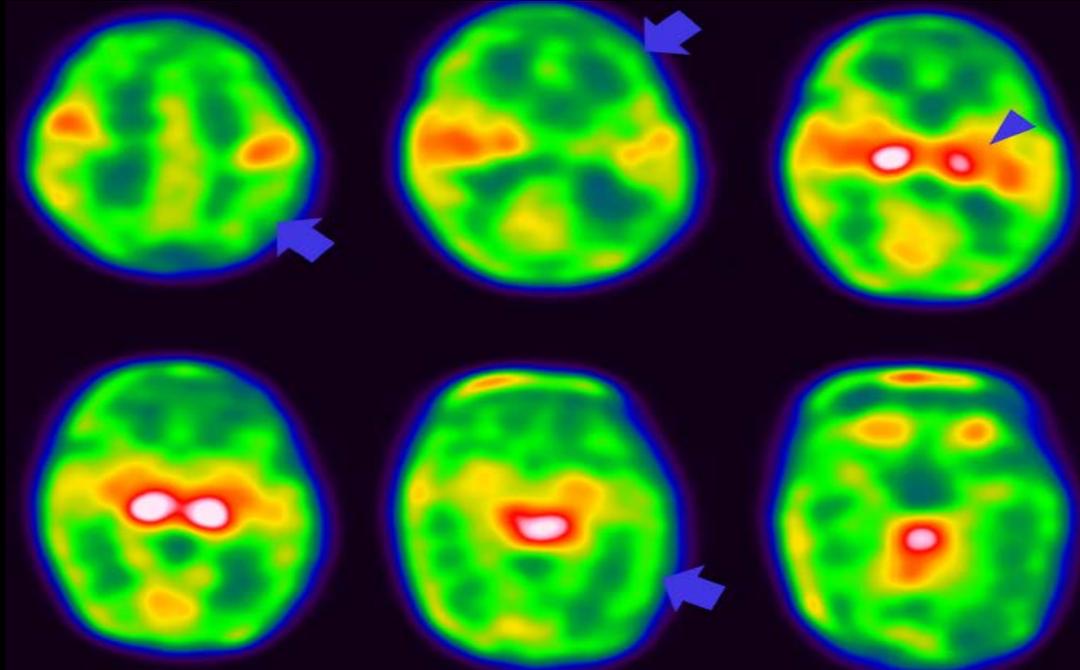
**VLBW without risk factors for poor cognitive development  
vs.  
VLBW with risk factors (multiple gestation, PROM, BPD, and IVH)**



**VLBW with risk factors showed an asymmetry of cortical glucose metabolism evaluated with PET-TC**

# CORTICAL GLUCOSE METABOLISM

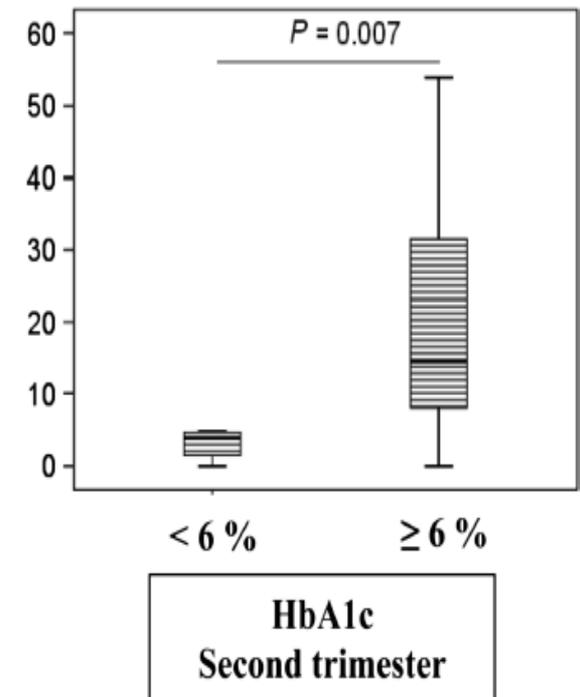
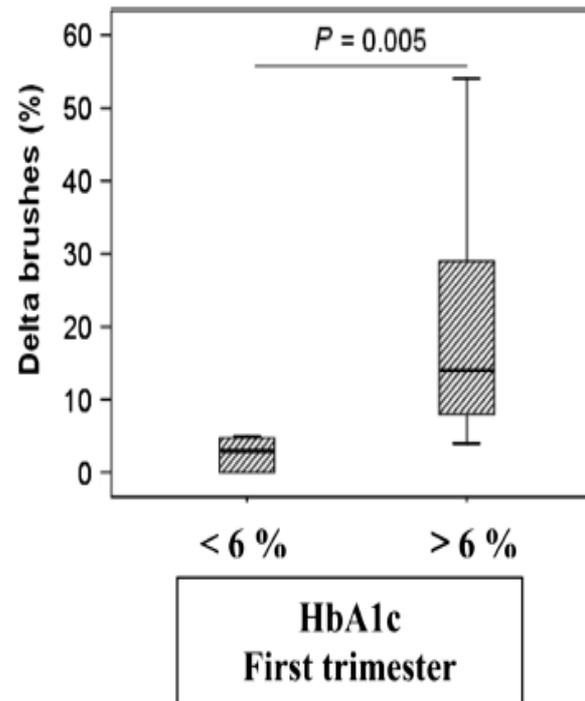
Glucose metabolism in VLBW infants with PROM, BPD, MG or IVH were significantly lower than those in infants without risk factors.



The decreased glucose metabolism was shown in the lateral parietal and temporal lobes, the medial occipital lobes and central region depending on the risk factors.

# Maternal HbA1c levels <6% during pregnancy could minimise the risk of cerebral immaturity at birth in these infants.

Figure 3 Comparison of the proportion of  $\delta$  brushes in the burst in the EEG of infants of diabetic mothers (IDM) according to glycosylated haemoglobin (HbA1c) levels above or below 6% in the first and second trimester of pregnancy.



Despite more than 50 years of neonatal hypoglycaemia research, uncertainty remains about which newborns to screen, whether transient hypoglycaemia has untoward long term effects, and what concentration or range of glucose concentration should be used to define neonatal hypoglycaemia, as well as about management strategies and the incidence of transient hypoglycaemia

*Jeffrey Kaiser et al. Association between transient newborn hypoglycemia and Fourth/Grade Achievement Test Proficiency. Jama Pediatr. 2015*



Neonatal hypoglycemia is common and can cause neurologic impairment, but evidence supporting thresholds for intervention is limited.

Christopher J.D. McKinlay, Ph.D et al.

Neonatal Glycemia and Neurodevelopmental Outcomes at 2 years. *N Engl J Med.* 2015

Eligible infants were those at risk for neonatal hypoglycemia primarily on the basis of **maternal diabetes**, preterm birth (gestational age of <37 weeks), or a birth weight that was low (<10th percentile or <2500 g) or **high (>90th percentile or >4500 g)**.

Hypoglycemia, defined as a blood glucose concentration of less than **47 mg per deciliter (2.6 mmol per liter)**, was treated with any combination of additional feeding, buccal dextrose gel, and intravenous dextrose to maintain a blood glucose concentration of at least 47 mg per deciliter

Christopher J.D. McKinlay, Ph.D et al.

Neonatal Glycemia and Neurodevelopmental Outcomes at 2 years. *N Engl J Med*.

2015

# RESULTS

we found that with a treatment **threshold of 47 mg** of glucose per deciliter, neonatal hypoglycemia was not associated with adverse neurodevelopmental outcomes at 2 years.

a protocol of regular blood glucose monitoring in the first 48 hours after birth and intervention aimed at maintaining a blood glucose concentration of at least 47 mg per deciliter is effective in preventing neuronal injury in at-risk term and late-preterm newborns.

Christopher J.D. McKinlay, Ph.D et al.

Neonatal Glycemia and Neurodevelopmental Outcomes at 2 years. *N Engl J Med.*

2015

It is important to distinguish between thresholds for intervention that can be safely applied to all infants and the lowest glucose concentration at which clinically **significant neuroglycopenia** is avoided. It is unlikely that neuroglycopenia can be defined by a single numerical value, since the relationships among glycemic exposure, alternative cerebral fuels, other perinatal stressors, and neuronal function are complex and may be highly infant-specific.

Christopher J.D. McKinlay, Ph.D et al.

Neonatal Glycemia and Neurodevelopmental Outcomes at 2 years. *N Engl J Med.*  
2015

A surprising finding of our study is the association of neurosensory impairment, especially **cognitive delay, with higher glucose concentrations** and less glucose stability, indicated by a larger proportion of time outside the central range of 54 to 72 mg per deciliter in the first 48 hours.

Of concern that **rapid correction of hypoglycemia to higher blood glucose concentrations may be associated with a poorer outcome**

Christopher J.D. McKinlay, Ph.D et al.

Neonatal Glycemia and Neurodevelopmental Outcomes at 2 years. *N Engl J Med.* 2015

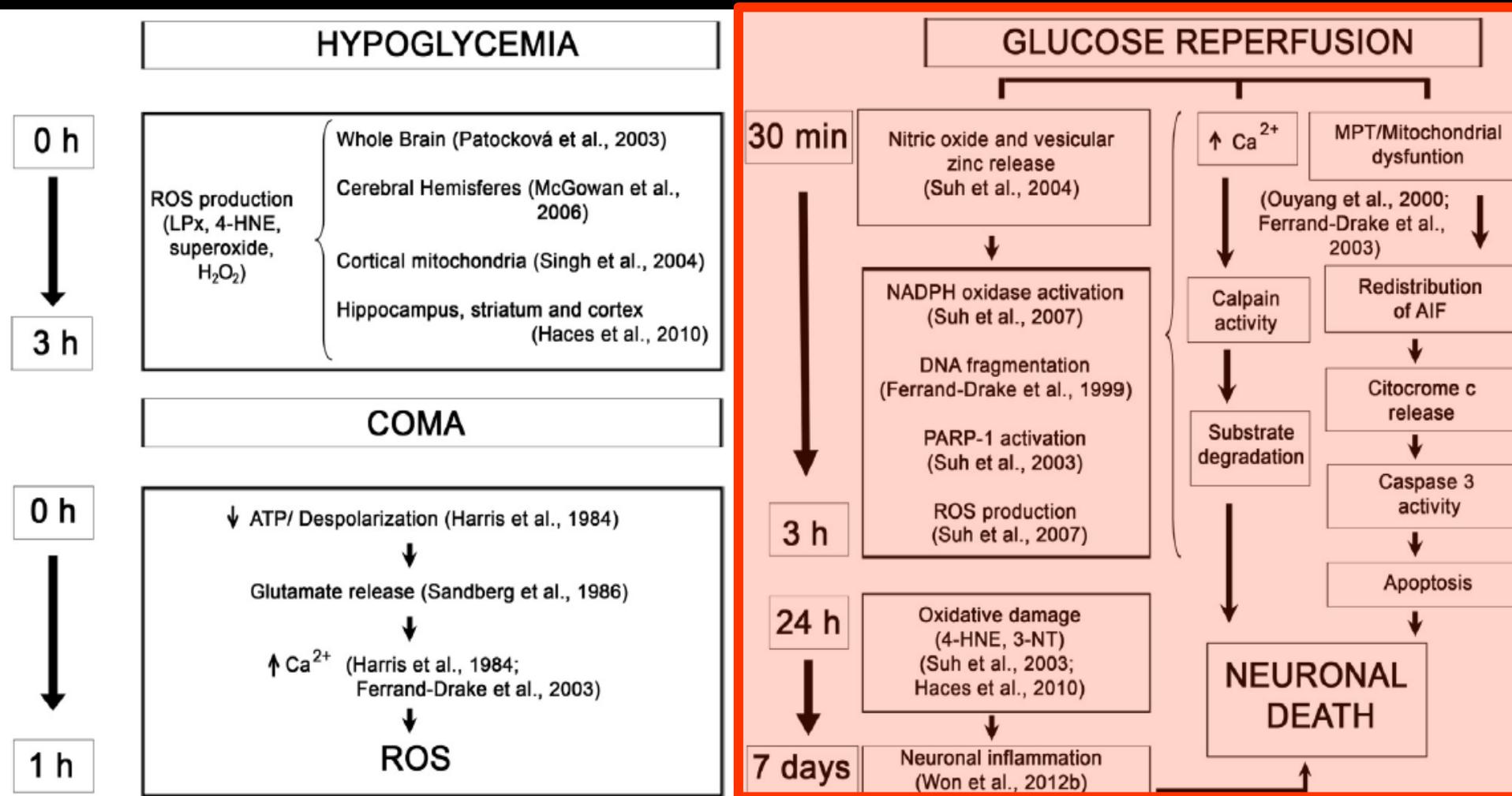


Fig. 1. Factors involved in neuronal death associated with severe hypoglycemia and their time-course of occurrence. Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS), Poly-(ADP ribose) polymerase-1 (PARP-1), Mitochondrial permeability transition pore (MPT), Nitric Oxide Synthase (NOX), 3-Nitrotyrosine (3-NT), 4-Hydroxynonenal (4-HNE), Lipid peroxidation (LPx), Apoptosis Inducing Factor (AIF).

Gabriela Languren et al. *Neuronal damage and cognitive impairment associated with hypoglycemia: An integrated view.* Neurochemistry International (2013)

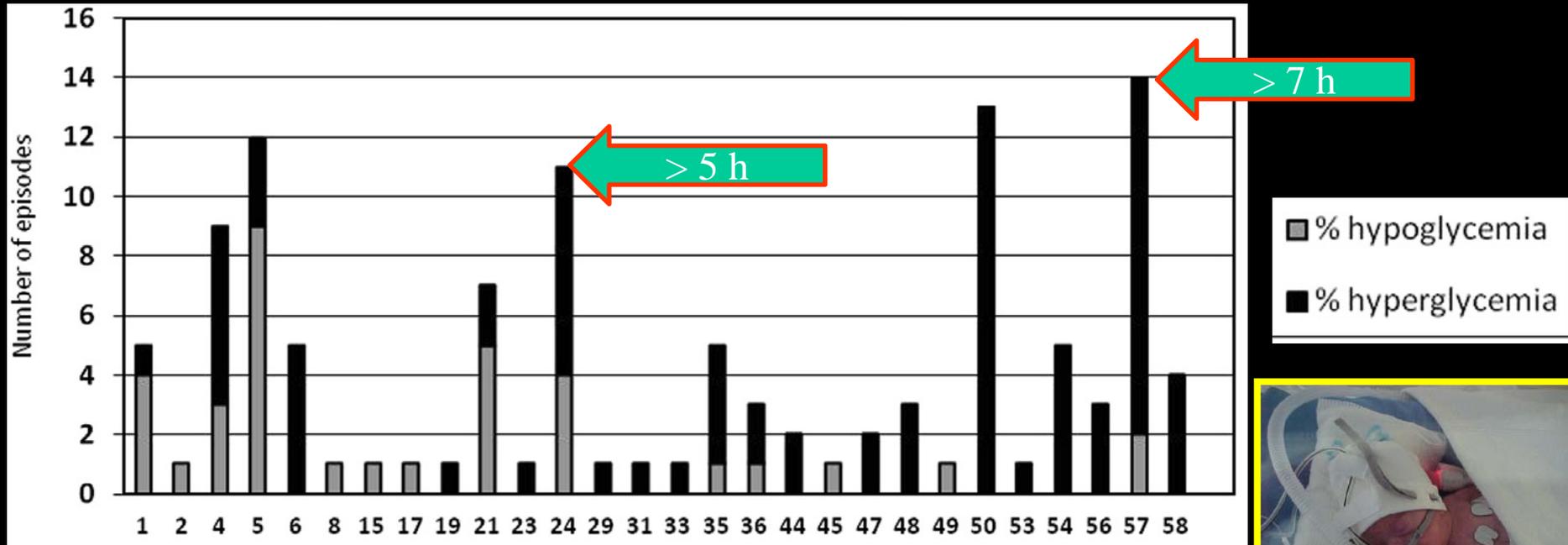
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Neonatal Glycemia and Neurodevelopmental Outcomes at 2 years. *N Engl J Med.* 2015

Glucose levels were intermittently or continuously monitored during 48 hours in a cohort of 60 **VPT infants** near hospital discharge. Hypoglycemic (45 mg/dL, 2.5 mmol/L) and hyperglycemic (140 mg/dL or 7.8 mmol/L, severe if 180 mg/dL or 10mmol/L) episodes were considered relevant if they lasted longer than 30 minutes.



Number of episodes of abnormal glucose per patient



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L. BACIALLI, BOLOGNA — G. C. BENTIVOGLIO, PAVIA — A. BOCCHINI,  
MILANO — A. BORRINO, PERUGIA — P. BRUSA, MILANO — G. CAREDDU,  
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SIENA — G. GUASSARDO, GENOVA — A. LUCCA, TORINO — R. PACHIOLI,  
BOLOGNA — G. REVOLTELLA, CATANIA — P. SCHIAPARELLI, TORINO

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GIOVANNI DE TONI

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PEDIATRIA PREVENTIVA  
INDIVIDUALE E SOCIALE

G. DE TONI

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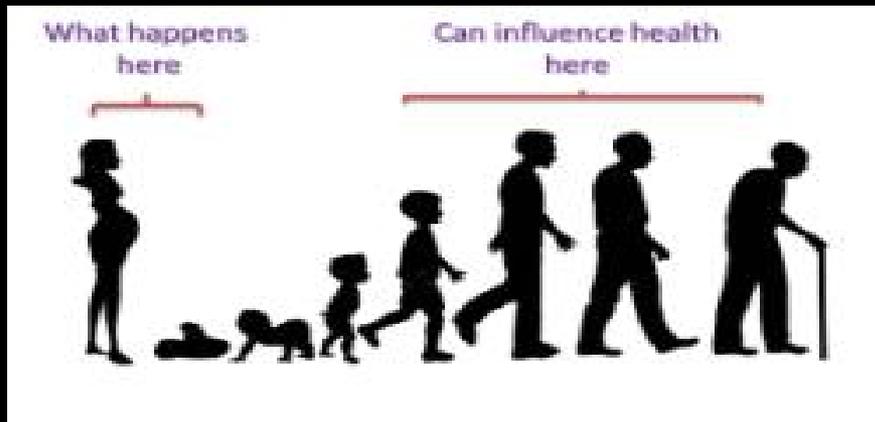
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PEDIATRIA PREVENTIVA  
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There is now robust evidence that a hyperglycemic intrauterine environment is responsible not only for significant short-term morbidity in the fetus and the neonate but also for an increased risk of developing diabetes as well as other chronic, noncommunicable diseases at adulthood



In the 1980s, David Barker and Colleagues proposed that the major causes of cardiovascular and metabolic diseases have their roots in early development