

## **Abstract**

Varicella zoster virus (VZV) is a neurotropic virus exclusively in humans and its manifestations are well described mostly in paediatric population. Hence, it is a common aetiology for acute cerebellitis in children. Though the neurotropic effect of varicella in adults is also described, its occurrence including acute encephalitis is rare in adults. It is even rarer to occur with primary infection than with herpes zoster. VZV infection is also known to cause cerebral vasculopathy. Infections account for about 10% of all causes of central venous sinus thrombosis. Bacteria are the main pathogen that are entertained most of the time as a cause for cerebral venous sinus thrombosis (CVST) and viruses, particularly VZV in CVST is highly underestimated. Awareness of the physicians about the complications of this infection is important to identify them early and to take necessary measures.

We report a 37 year old male patient who had primary varicella infection with itchy popular skin eruption 2 weeks back, present with unsteadiness, blurred vision. On examination, he had truncal ataxia and nystagmus. Eye examination revealed right sided relative afferent pupillary defect. Few days later he developed severe headache with papilledema. investigations confirmed that this patient was having acute encephalitis with inferior petrosal sinus thrombosis.