Abstract:

Takayasu arteritis is a rare form of large vessel vasculitis affecting the aorta and its main branches. The disease can be categorized in to three phases as pre vasculitic, vasculitic and burned-out phase. Large vessel inflammation ultimately leads to stenosis and occlusion of arteries along with aneurysm formation. Stroke as a primary manifestation of TA is rarely reported in the literature.

This case report describes a previously healthy 30-year-old male presenting with an ischemic stroke as the first manifestation of Takayasu arteritis with a background of nonspecific systemic symptoms. Neuroimaging revealed extensive bilateral acute infarctions with complete occlusion of right internal carotid artery and stenosis of left internal carotid artery. Patient was managed with systemic immunosuppression.

Takayasu arteritis usually has a subacute onset of vague symptoms that often leads to a delay in diagnosis during which time vascular disease starts to progress. Stroke as the first manifestation of disease is rare, but should be kept in mind as an important differential in evaluation of young stroke.