



# Intracranial Aneurysms Update 2023

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SENTARA NEUROSURGERY

# Disclosure

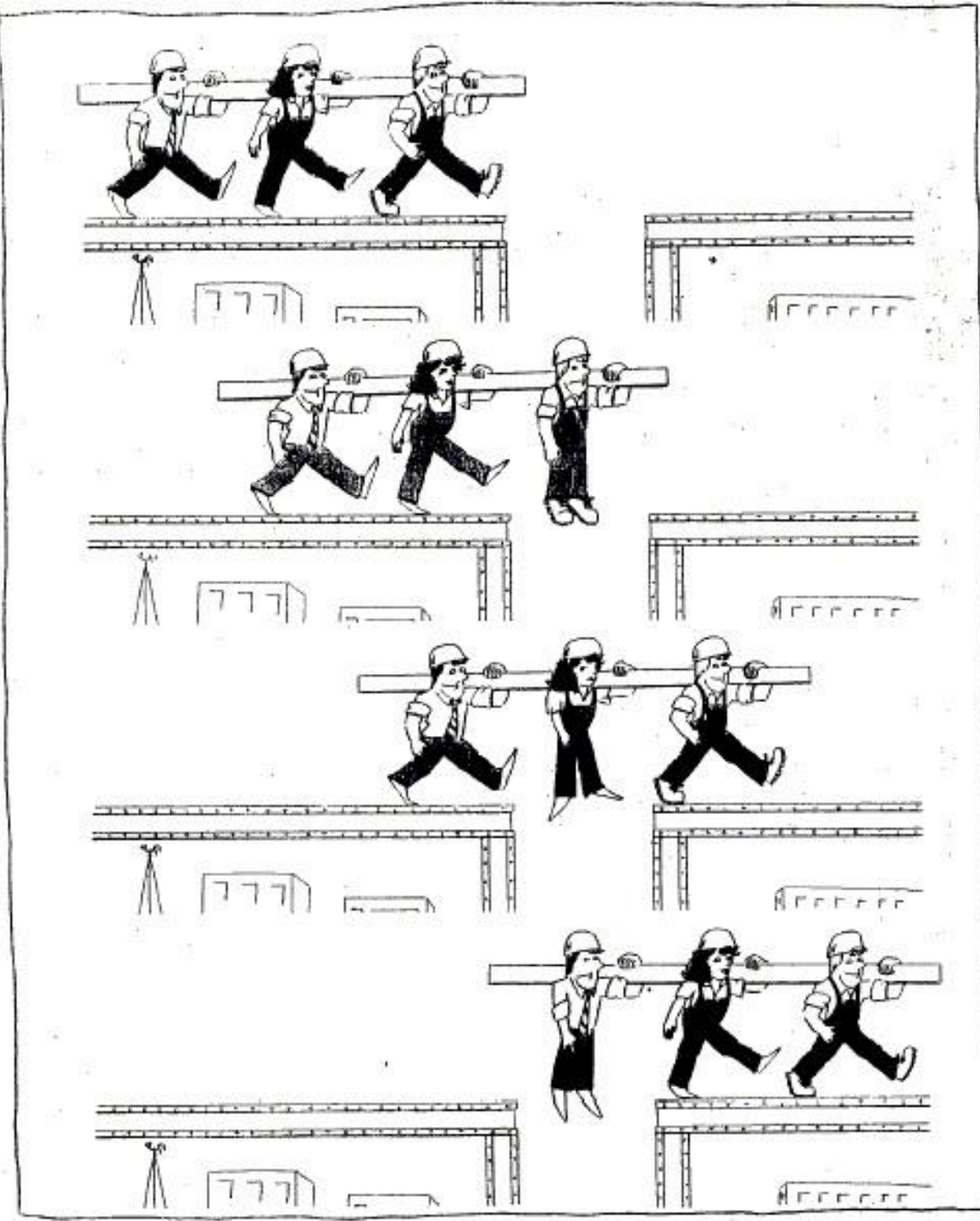
▶ None



**Teamwork is the  
Key to Success**

**Need to select  
the best  
treatment based  
on the patient  
and the  
aneurysm**

**One size doesn't  
fit all**



# Intracranial Aneurysms

- ▶ Devastating disease
  - ▶ 60% mortality when rupture occurs
- ▶ About 40,000 patients treated yearly in the US
- ▶ Options
  - ▶ Observation
  - ▶ Open Clipping
  - ▶ Endovascular treatment
- ▶ Typical Treatment Threshold
  - ▶ Size > 5-7mm
  - ▶ Anatomic irregularity (daughter sac or nipple)





# Causes of Morbidity and Mortality

- ▶ BLEEDING
- ▶ Rebleeding
- ▶ Rebleeding
- ▶ Hydrocephalus
- ▶ Ischemia
- ▶ Vasospasm
- ▶ Electrolyte imbalance
- ▶ SAH induced cardiac dysfunction
- ▶ Etc.

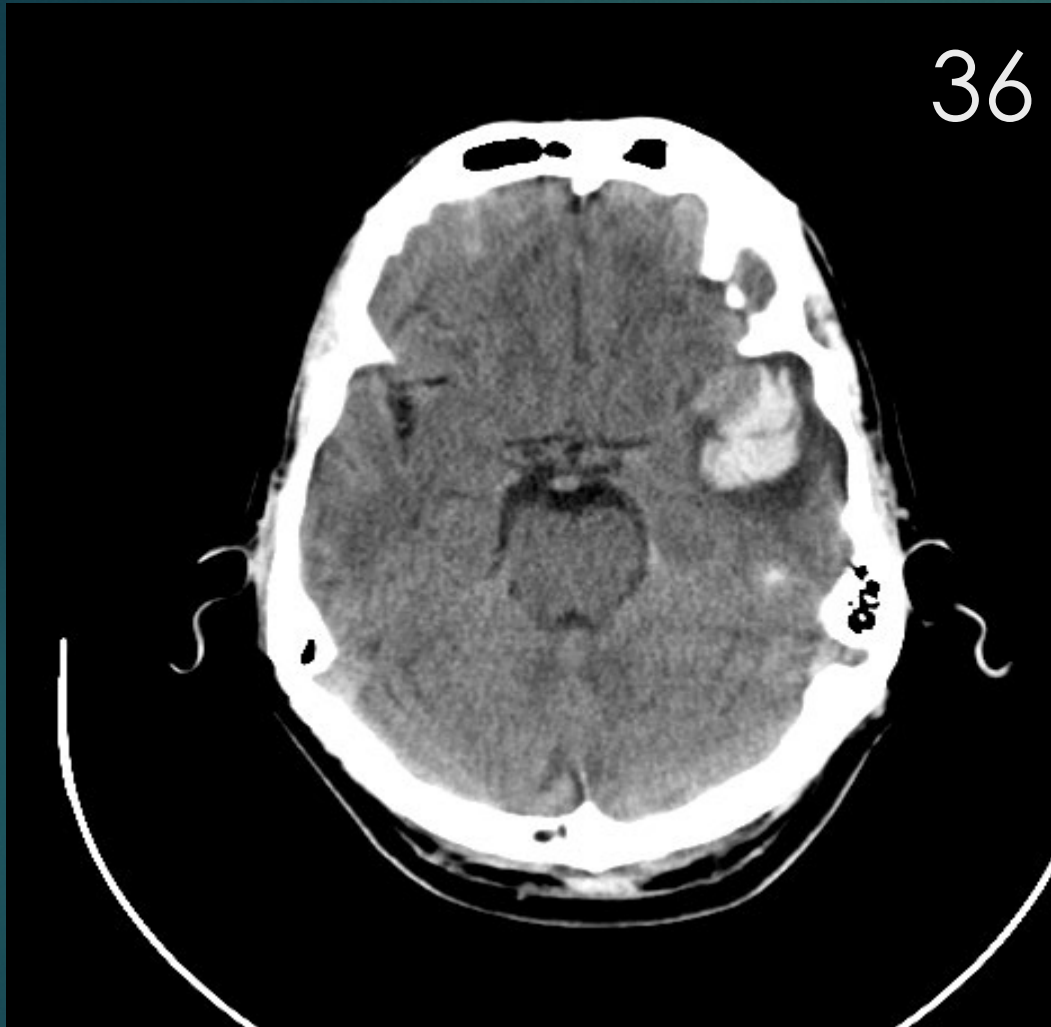
# Preventing Aneurysm Rebleeding

- ▶ Calm environment
- ▶ Pain management
- ▶ If patient intubated, continuous sedation
  - ▶ Muscle relaxant if needed
- ▶ SBP <140
- ▶ Use of anti-fibrinolytic agents

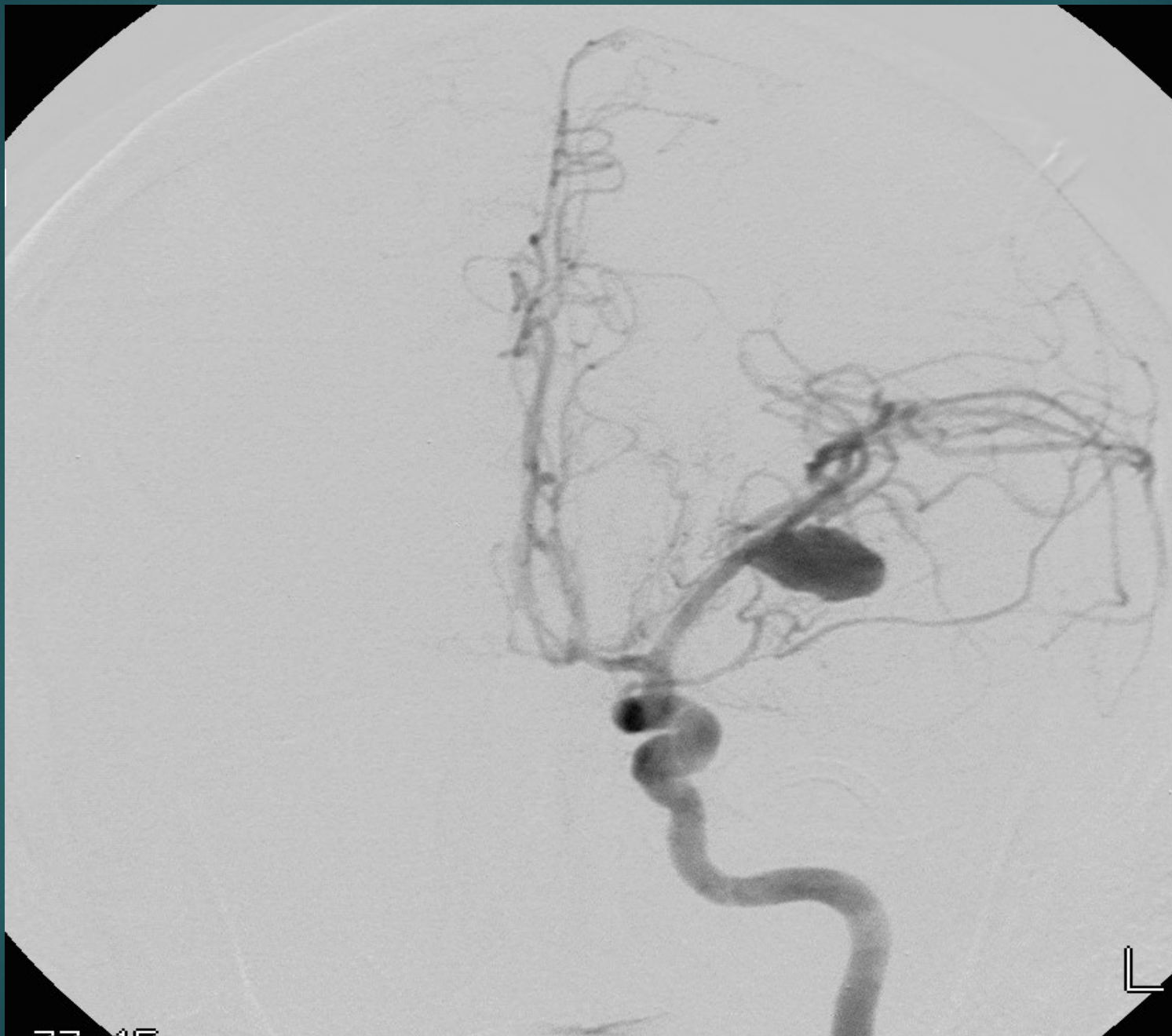


# Case 1

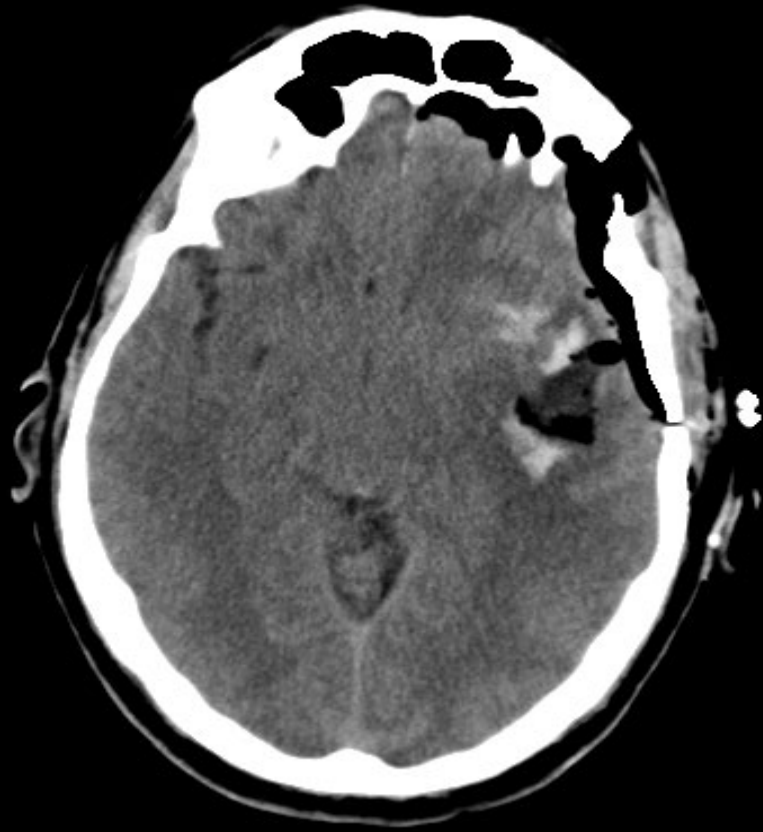
36 h later



The Bleed







# ED Evaluation of SAH

- ▶ 50% of patients with SAH have warning symptoms
- ▶ CT Head
  - ▶ LP if CT negative with Thunderclap headache
- ▶ CTA Head and Neck
  - ▶ CTA will guide modality of treatment
  - ▶ If CTA negative
    - ▶ Catheter based angiography



# ED Management of SAH

- ▶ ABCs
- ▶ BP Target varies
  - ▶ Clinical situation
  - ▶ IPH
- ▶ Avoid maneuvers can induce rebleeding
- ▶ Comatose patients assume elevated ICP
  - ▶ EVD
  - ▶ Mannitol
  - ▶ Hypertonic saline

# Intracranial Aneurysms

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- ▶ Craniotomy for aneurysm clipping had been the standard treatment for aneurysms for decades
- ▶ 2004: The year where coiling surpassed clipping in the US and currently endovascular is the primary treatment choice at many institutions including at Sentara
- ▶ The use of stents and flow diverters has allowed us to treat many more patients with complex aneurysms using endovascular techniques with fewer complications
- ▶ There remain some limitations with endovascular treatment in the setting of ruptured aneurysms especially with stents and flow diverters given the need for DAP



# *Surgical Morbidity*

Favors Endovascular  
Treatment

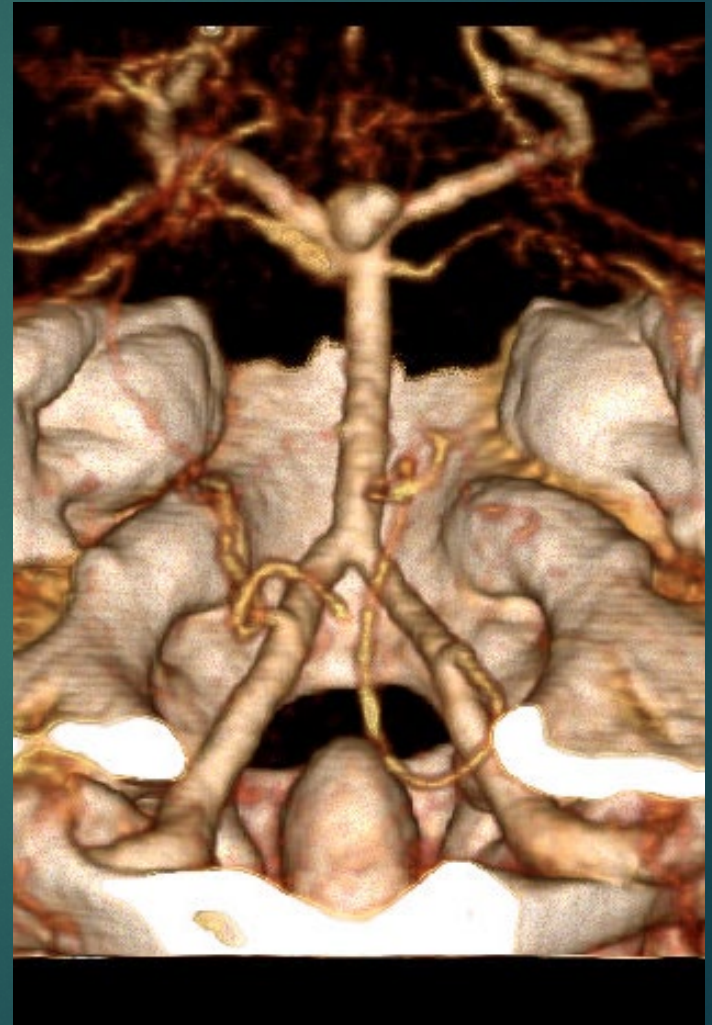
# *Efficacy/Durability*

- ▶ Favors Open Surgical Treatment
- ▶ Endovascular treatment continues to improve rapidly especially in the setting of flow diverters

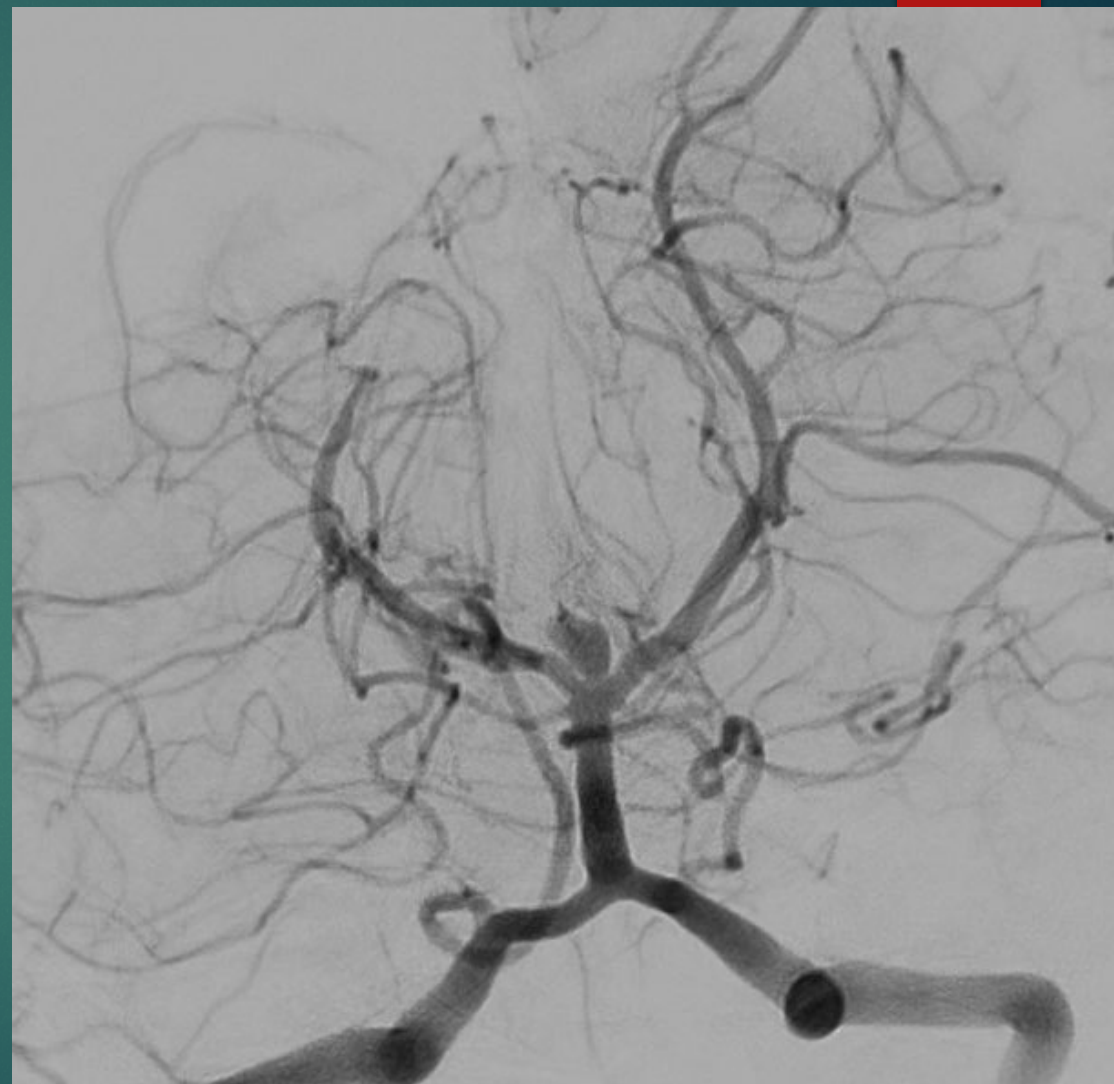


# CASE 2

30 YO Female with Coital HA  
Low volume SAH

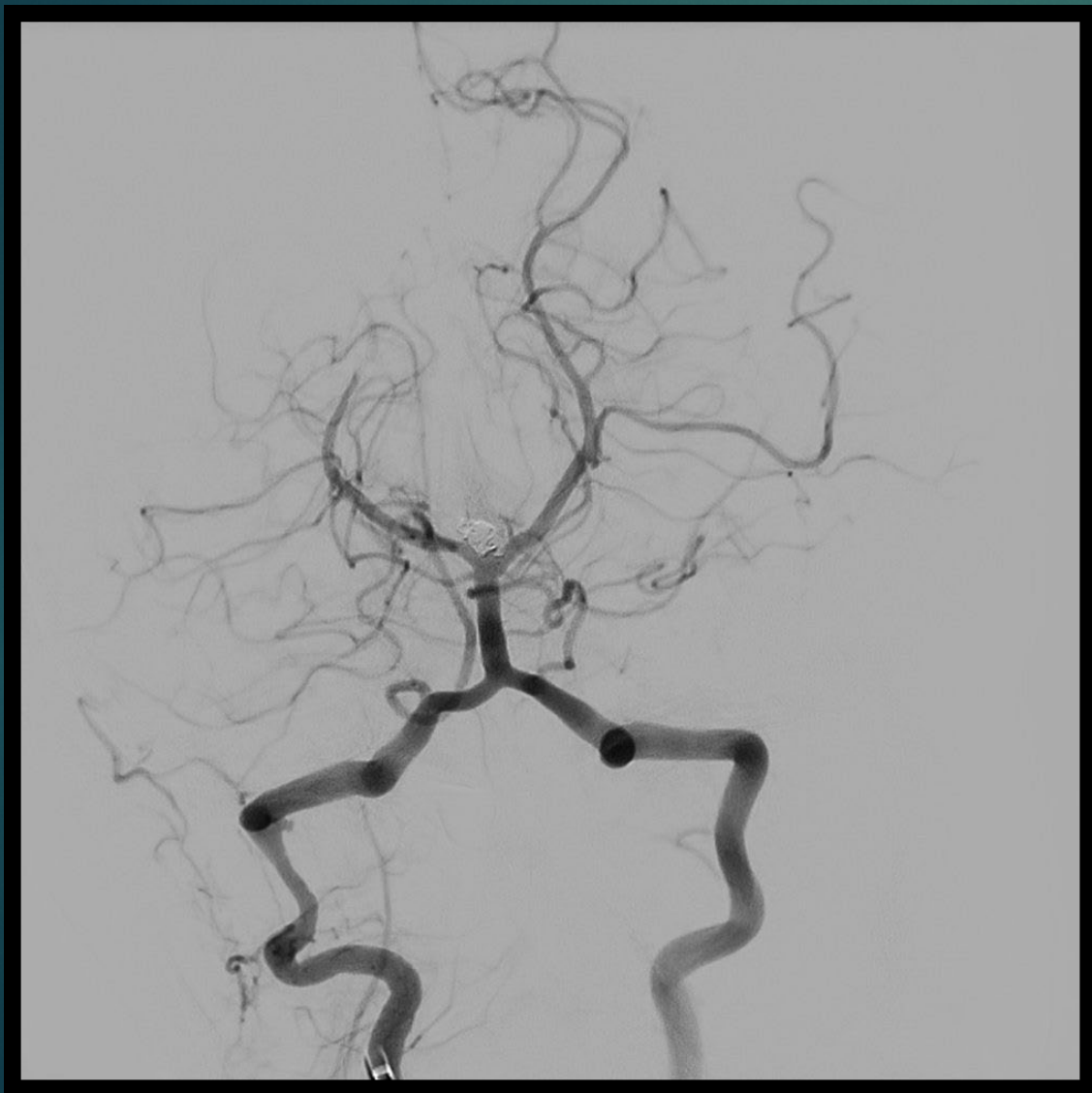


# DSA





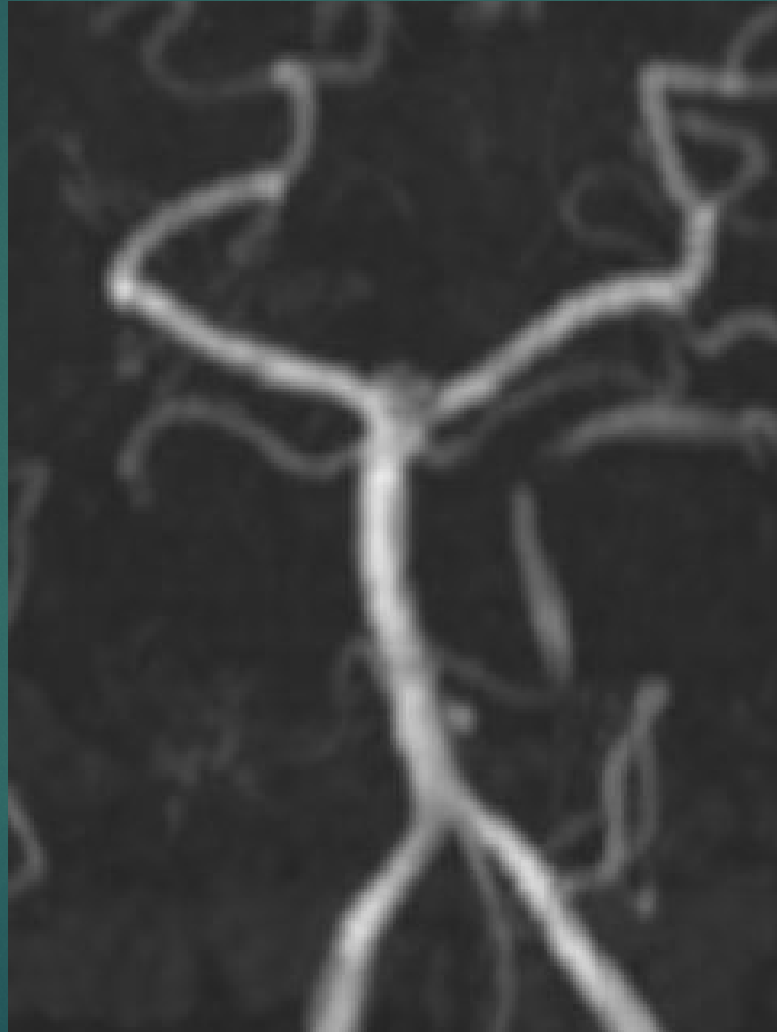
# Primary Coil Embolization



# 6 Month follow-up with recurrence



Initial treatment LAT Post



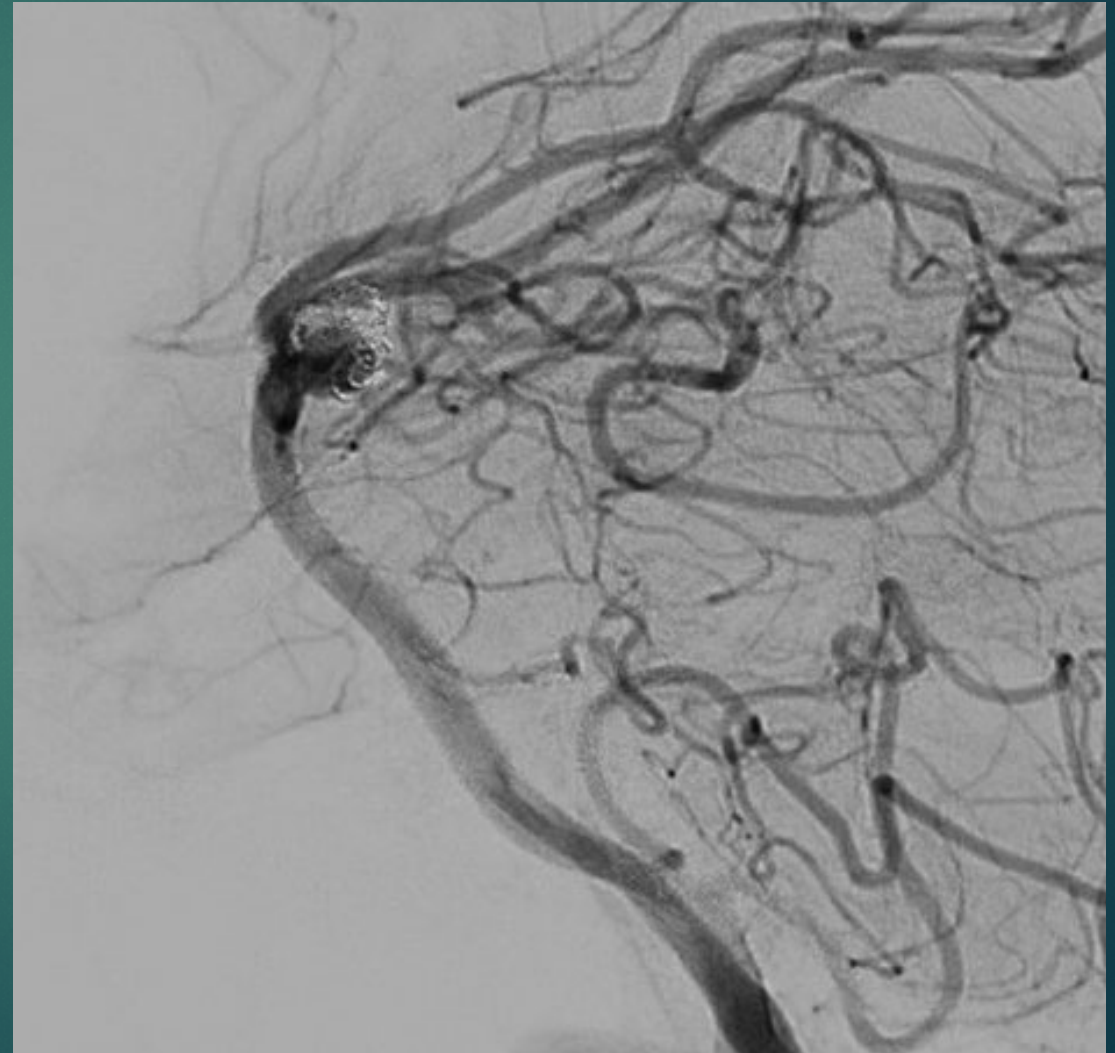
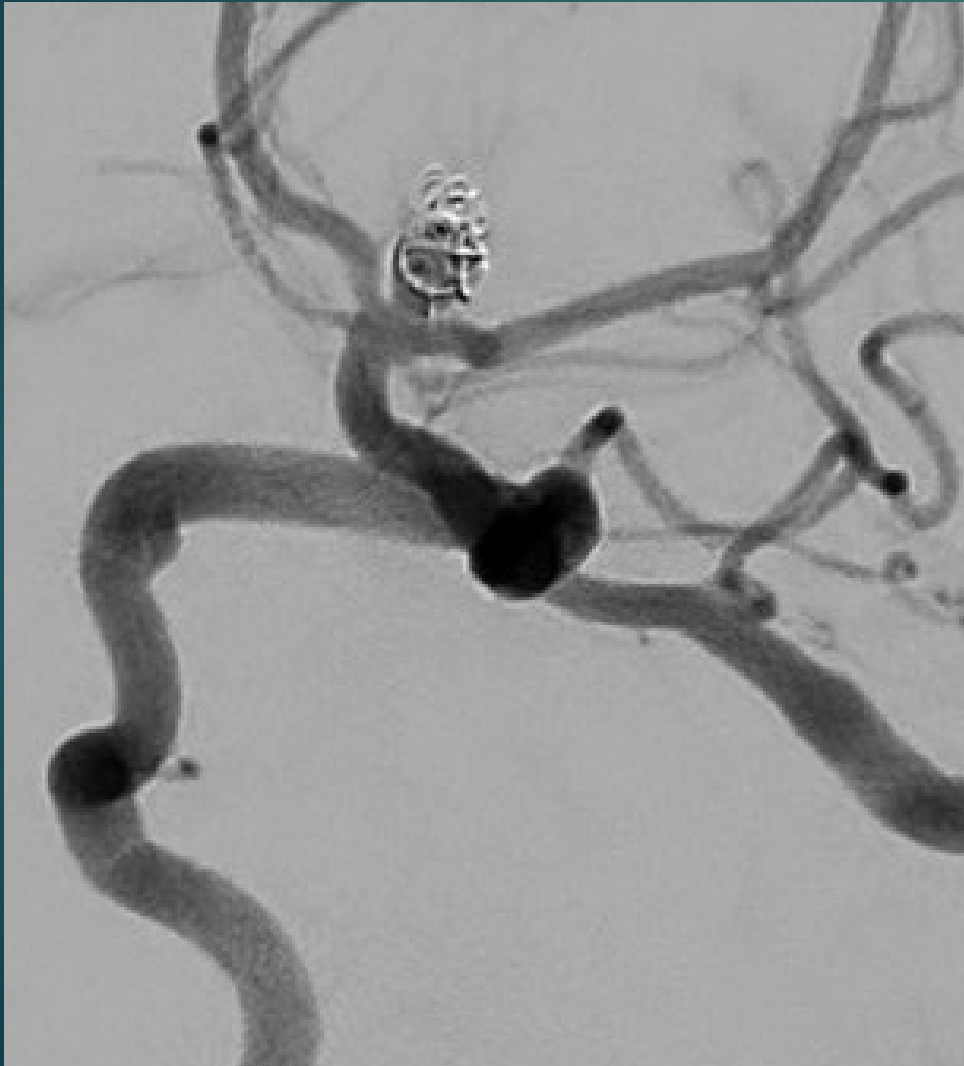
AP 6Mo MRA



6 Mo LAT with Coil compaction

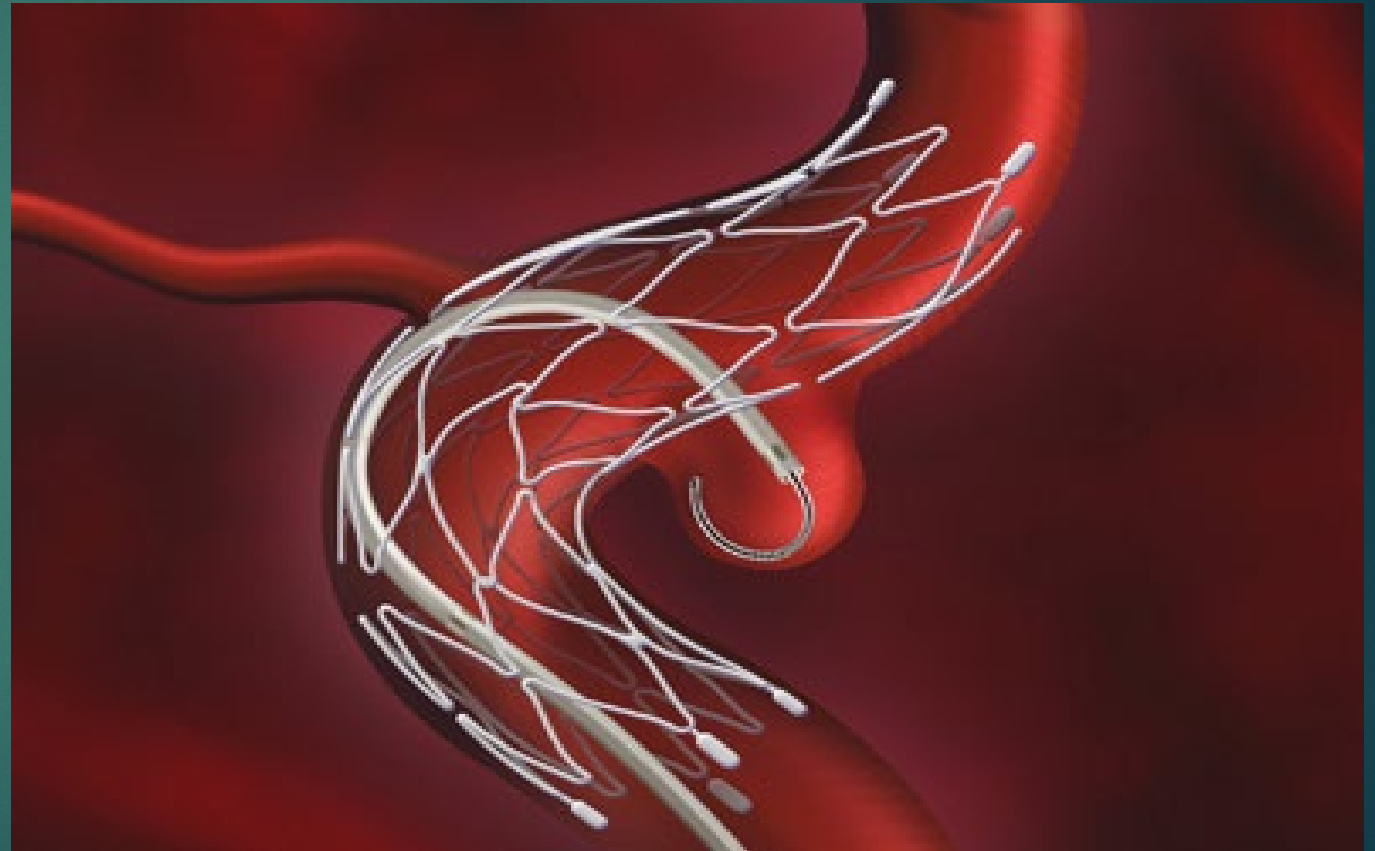


# Significant recurrence from coil compaction

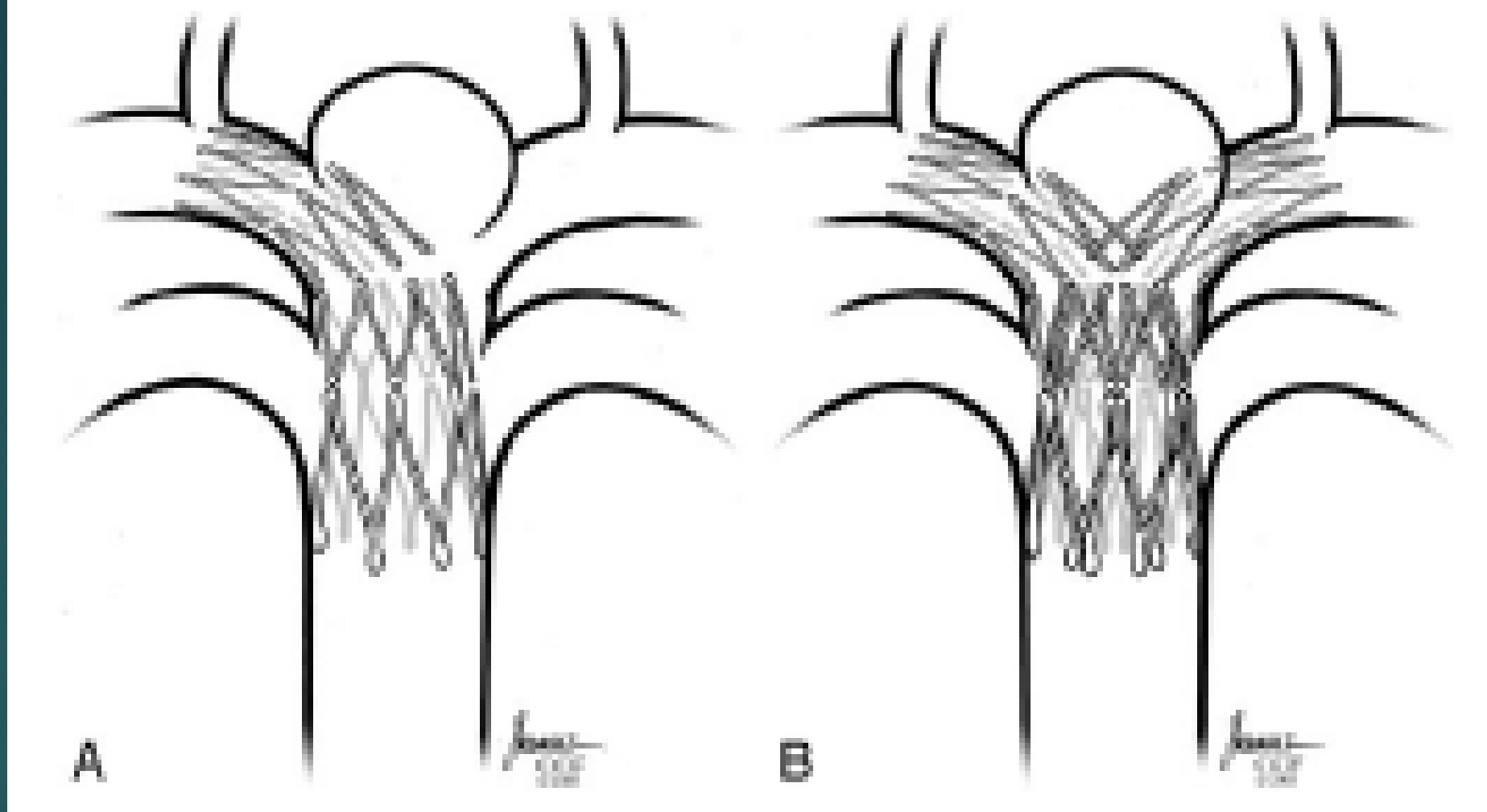


# Stent Assisted Coil Embolization

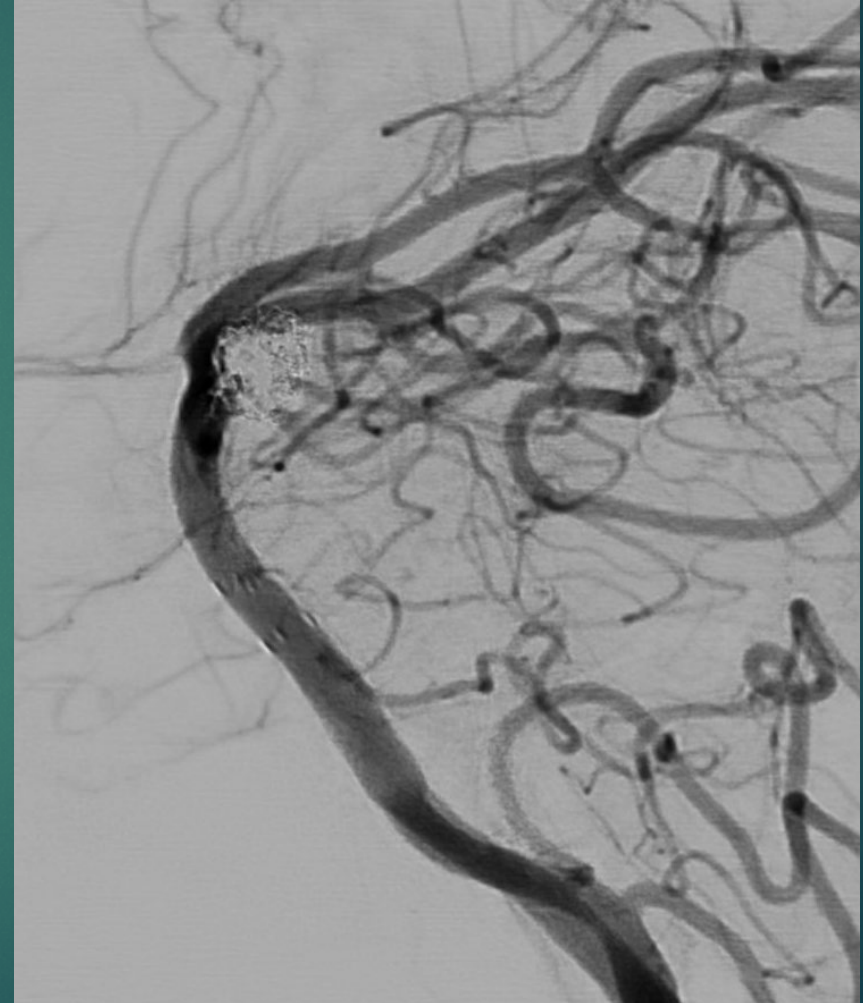
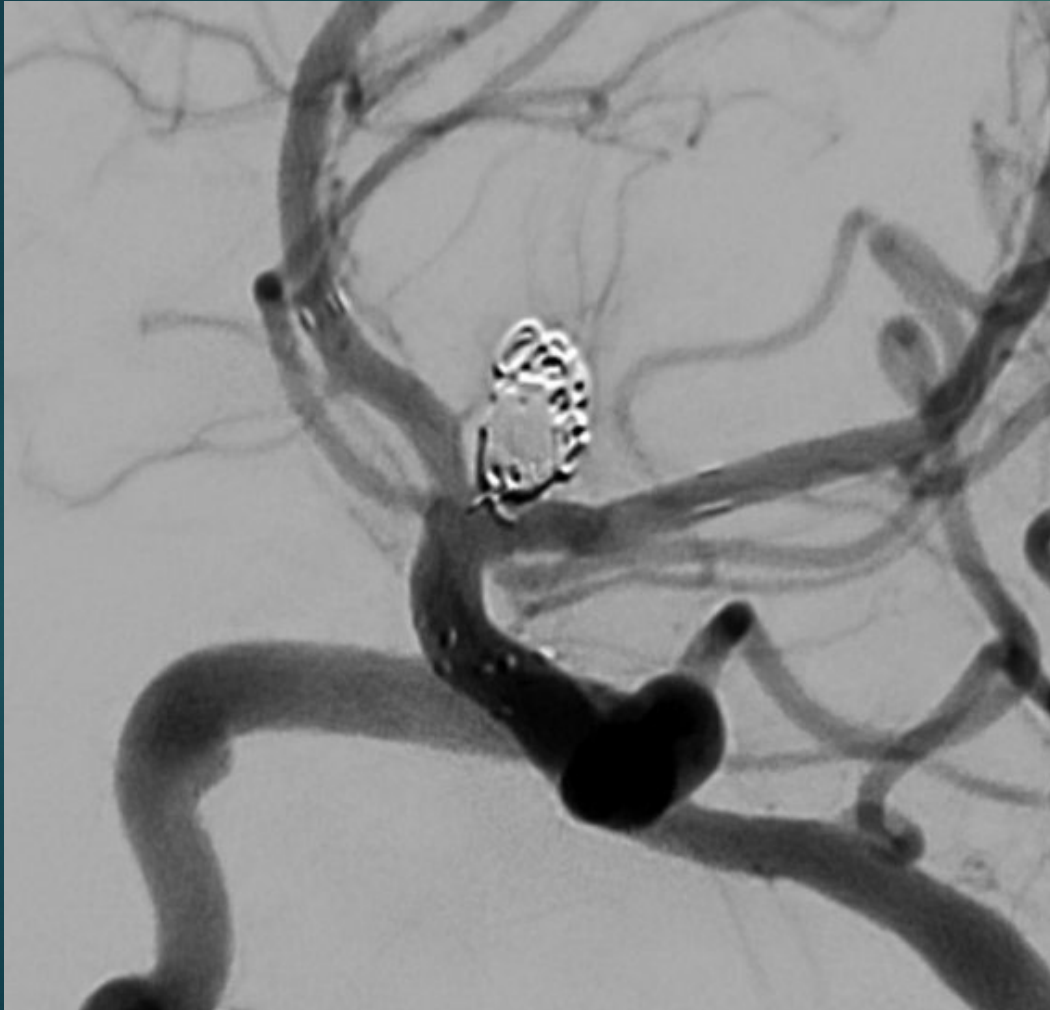
- ▶ Allows for more complete packing of aneurysm while maintaining parent vessel patency over coiling alone.
- ▶ May provide some flow diversion effect
- ▶ Limited use in SAH given need for DAP therapy
- ▶ 2001-2002
  - ▶ First stent specifically designed to treat intracranial aneurysms
- ▶ 2007
  - ▶ Second stent, different design, much improved navigability and easier to be delivered.
- ▶ Today
  - ▶ Multiple new stents now deployable from coiling catheter (Atlas, LVIS Jr, etc)







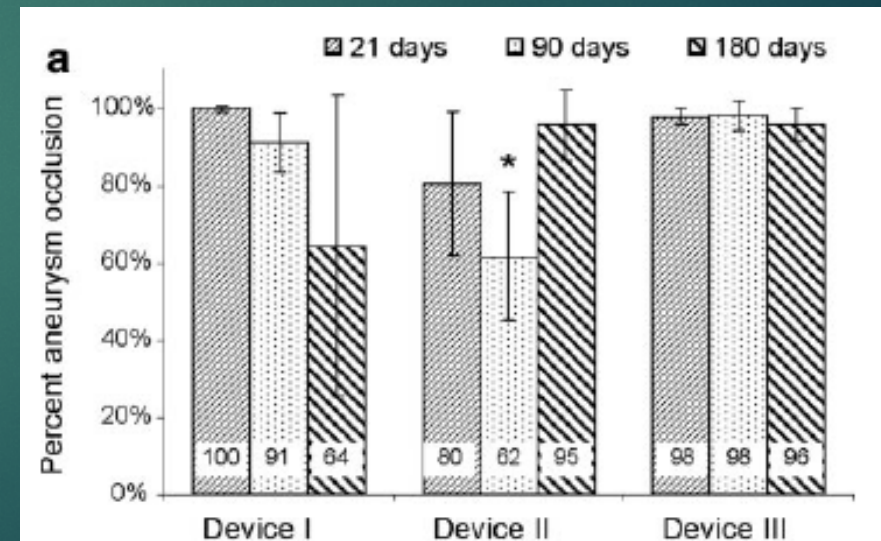
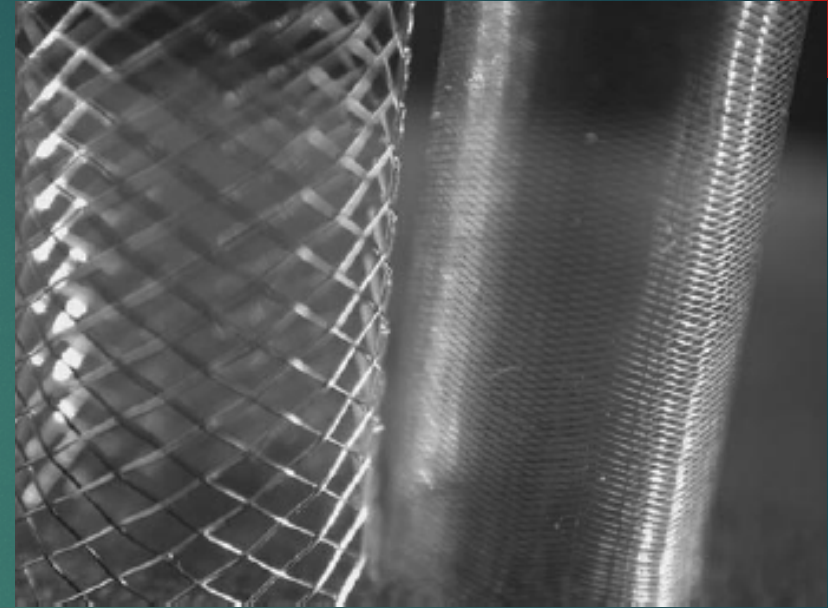
# Post Y-Stent assisted coiling





# Flow Diverters

- ▶ Evolution of “light metal stents”
- ▶ Higher metal to arterial wall ratio
  - Enterprise: 5-6%
  - Pipeline: 35%
- Pore to mm<sup>2</sup> ratio
- ▶ Game changer in the treatment of side wall aneurysms
- ▶ Developed for treatment of giant aneurysms now used for smaller aneurysms
- ▶ Ideally used prior to the carotid terminus to prevent occlusion of vessel at bifurcation of incomplete occlusion of the aneurysm.
- ▶ Also requires DAP therapy





# “Flow Diverters” - Braided Stents Silk, Pipeline, Surpass and Others



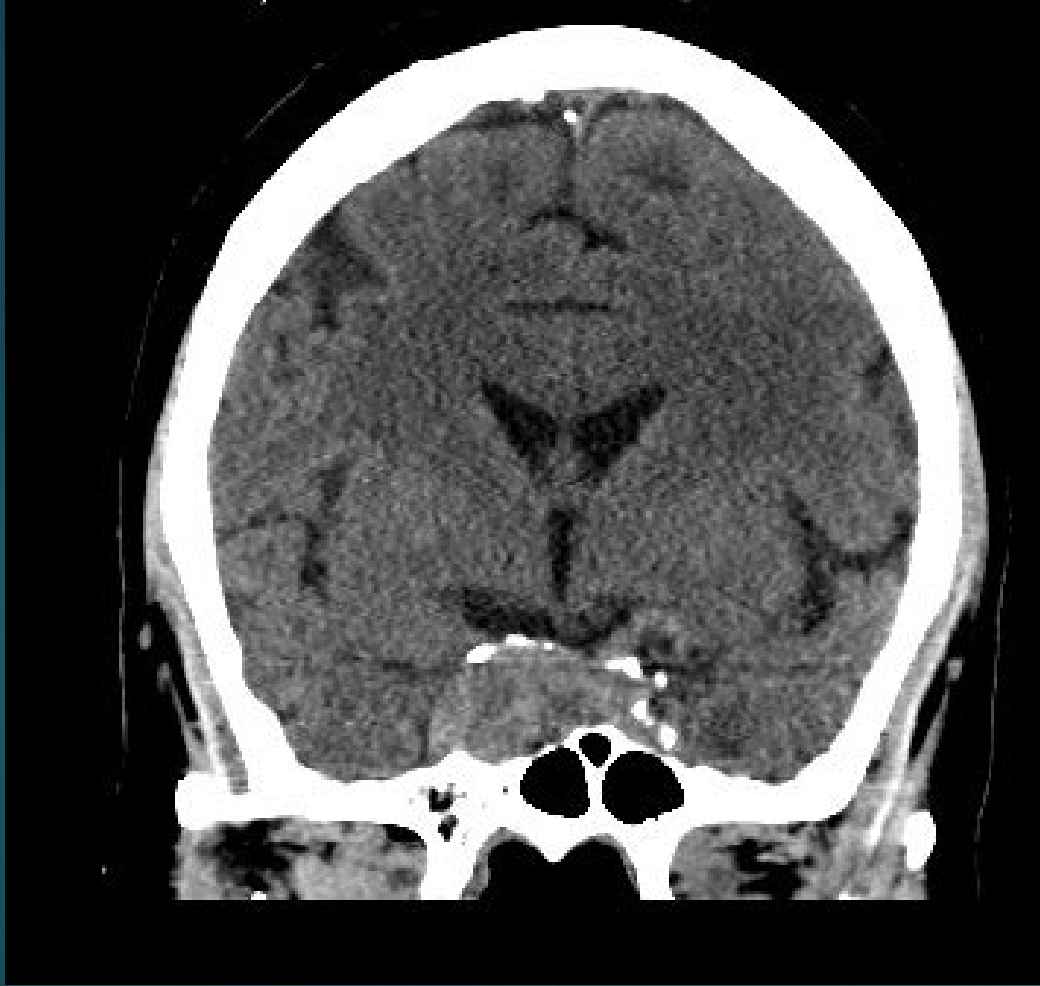
**Pipeline flex Shield**



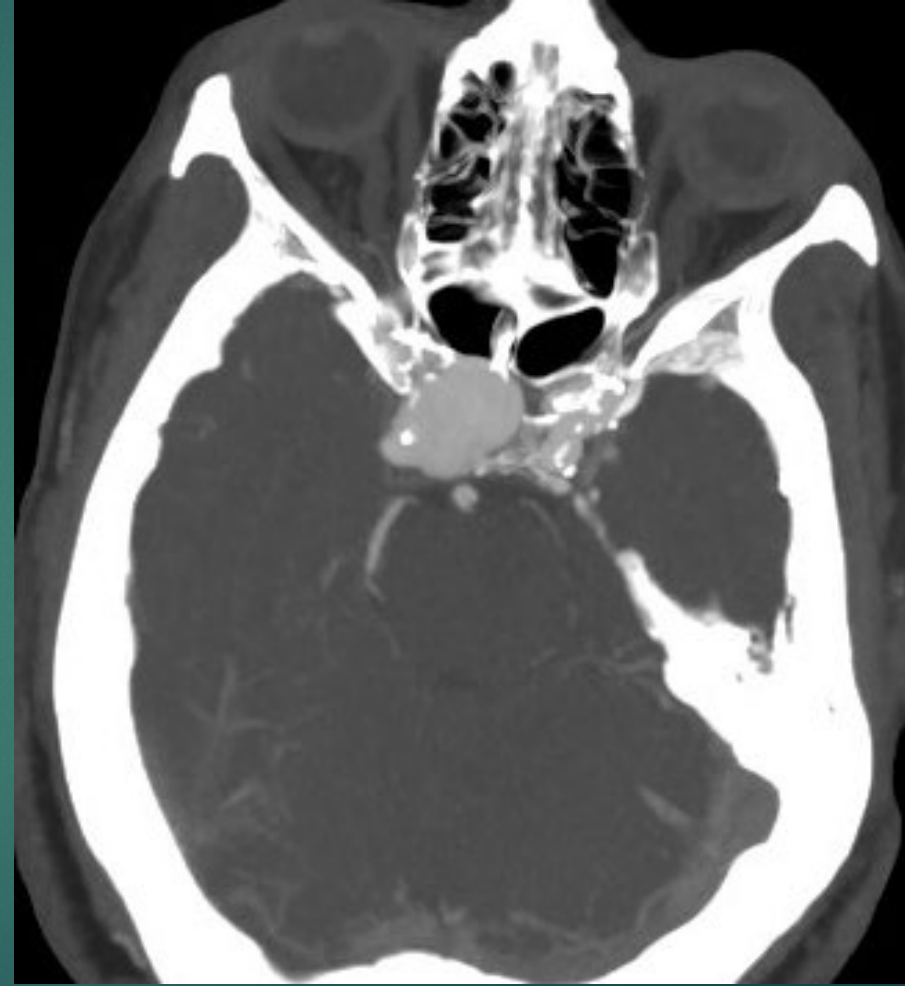


## Case 3

67 YO female 2 days of severe HA

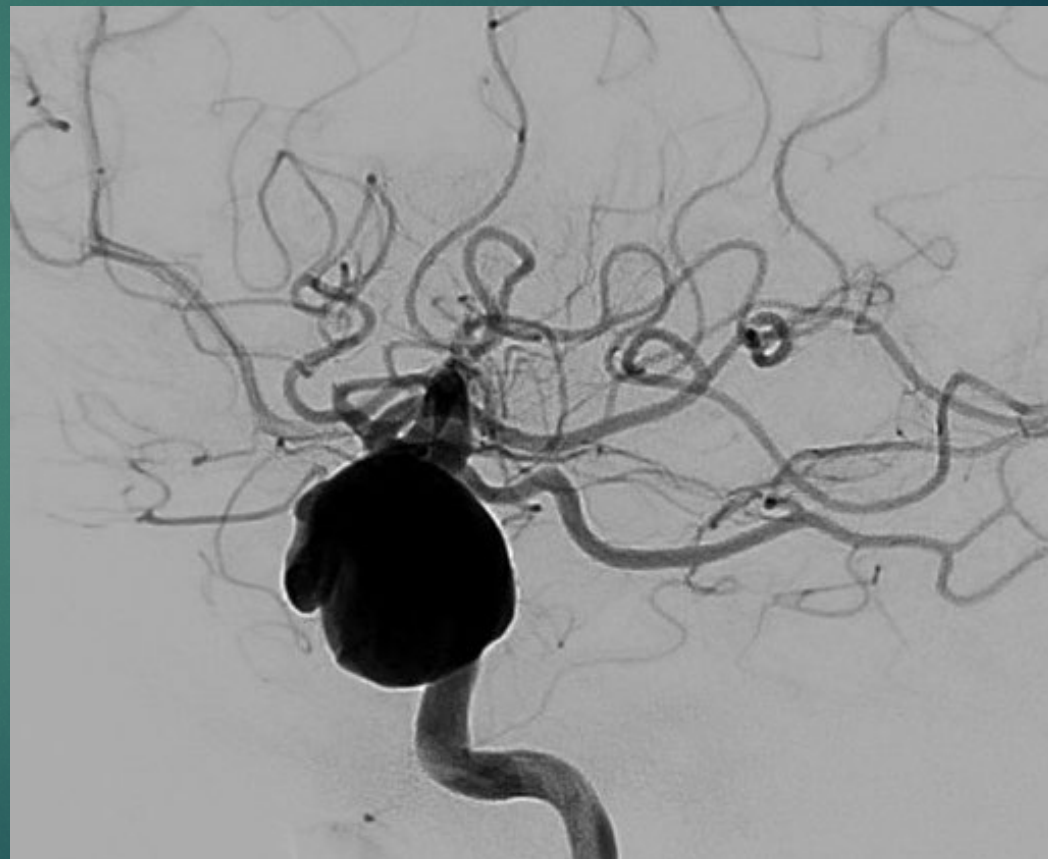
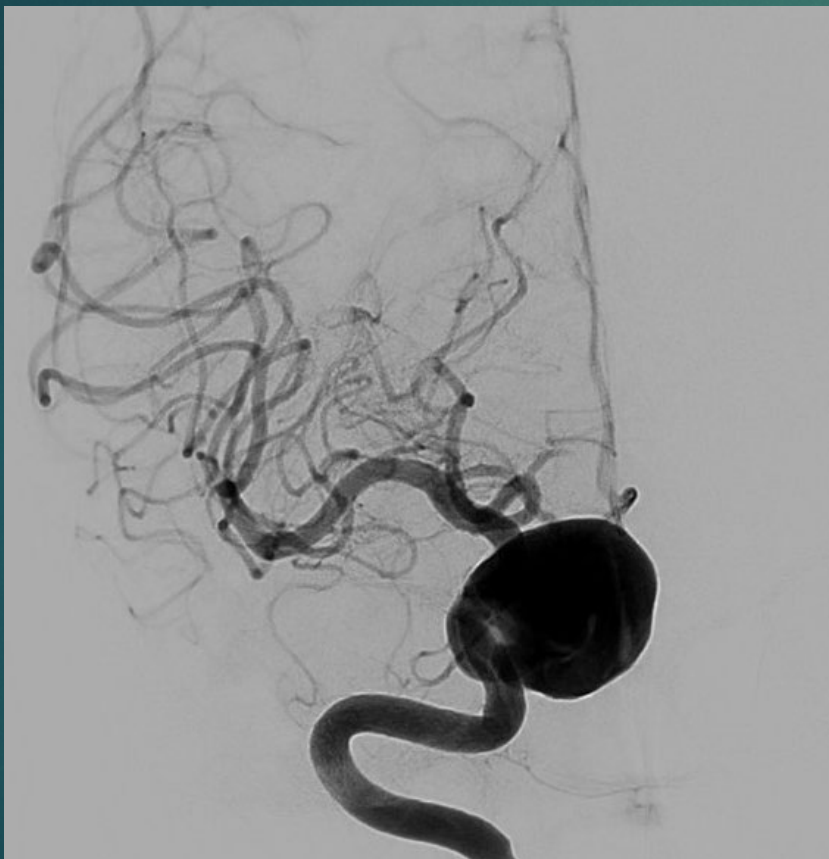


Dry Head CT

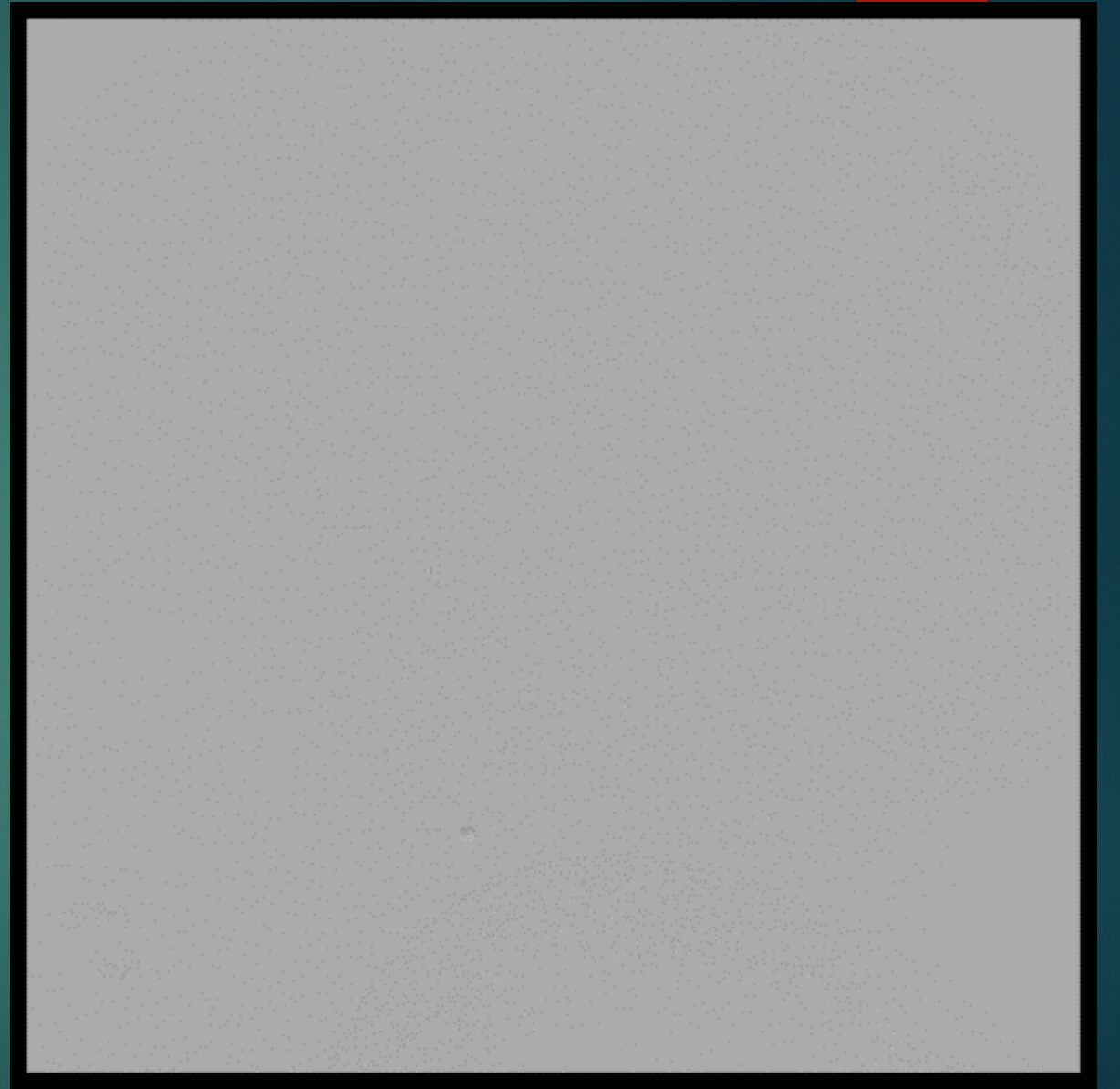
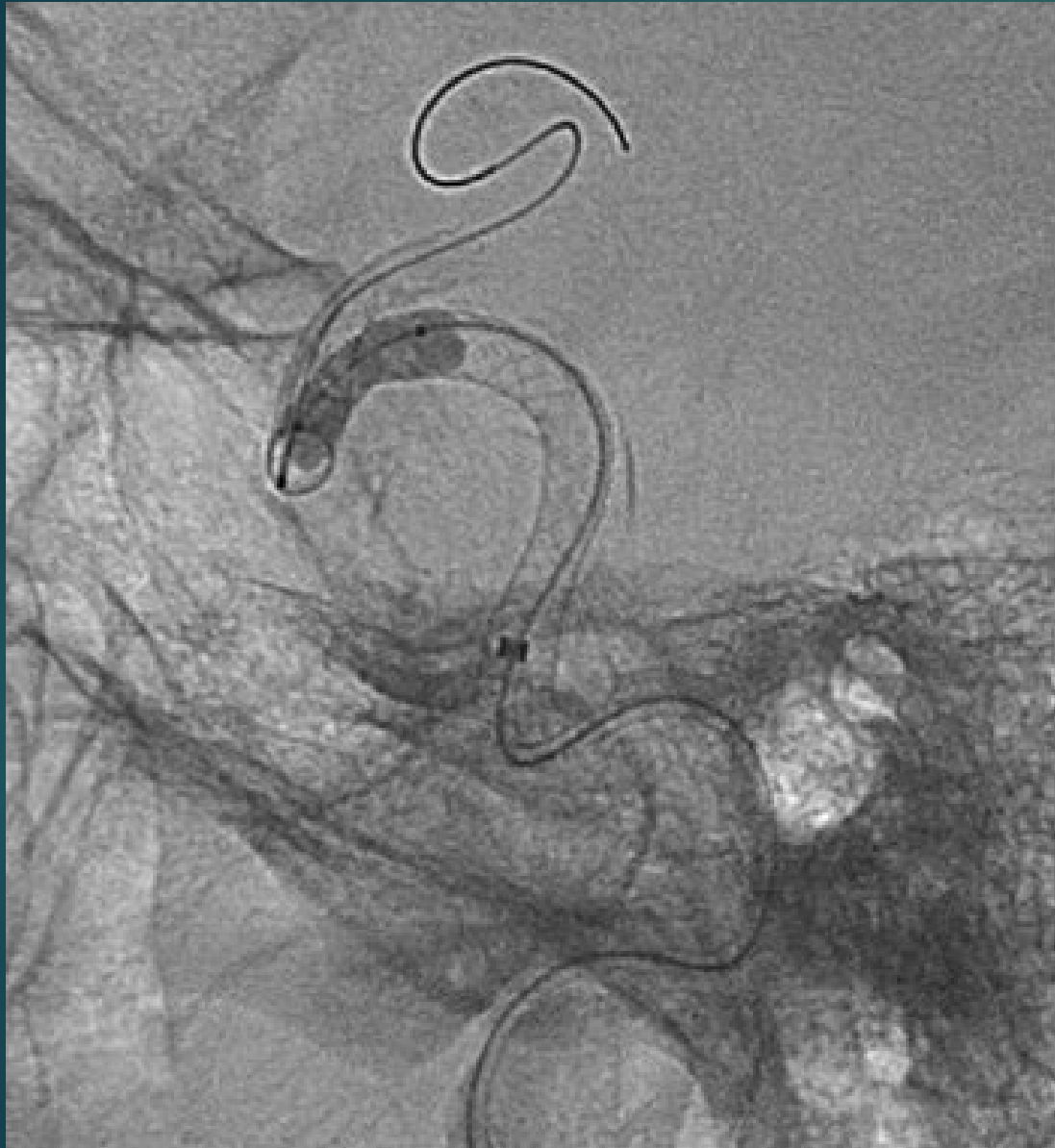


CTA with 2.6 CM R Cavernous aneurysm

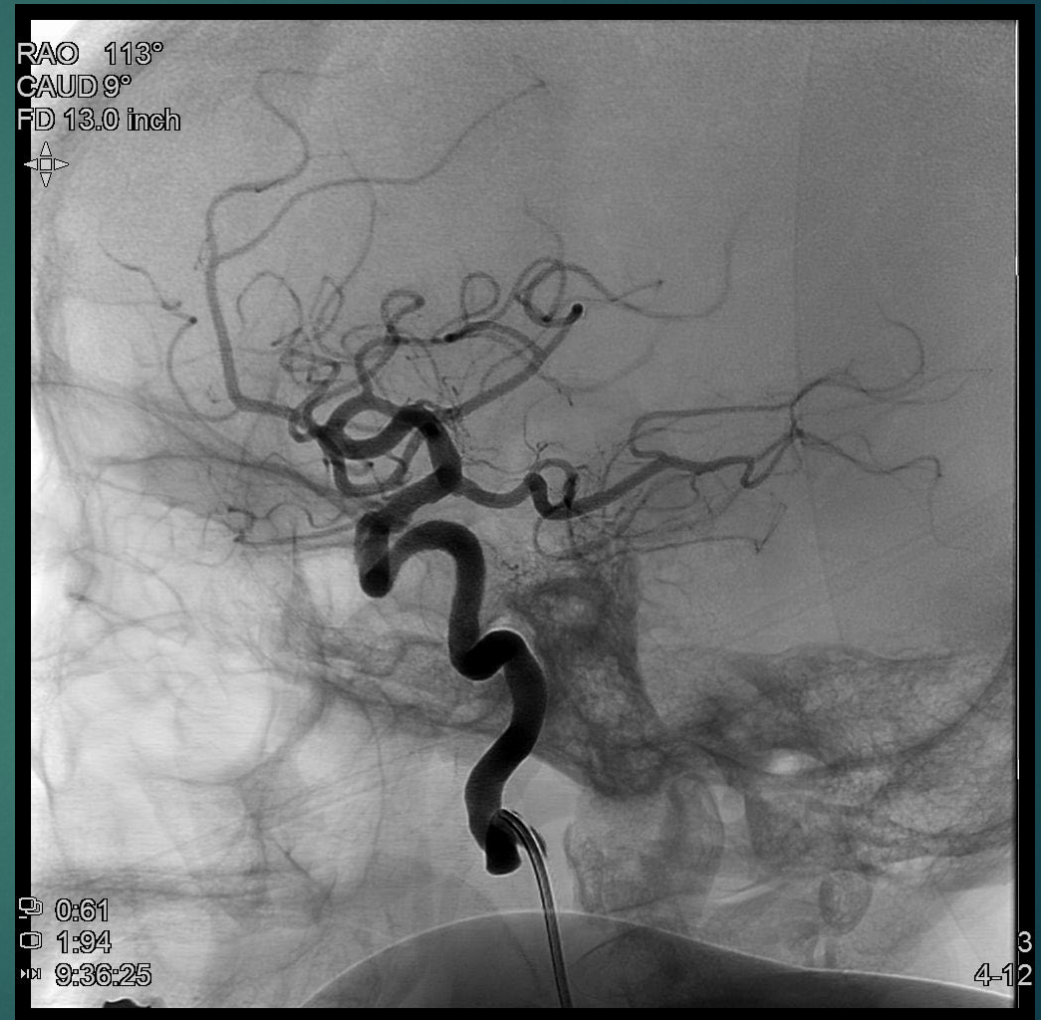
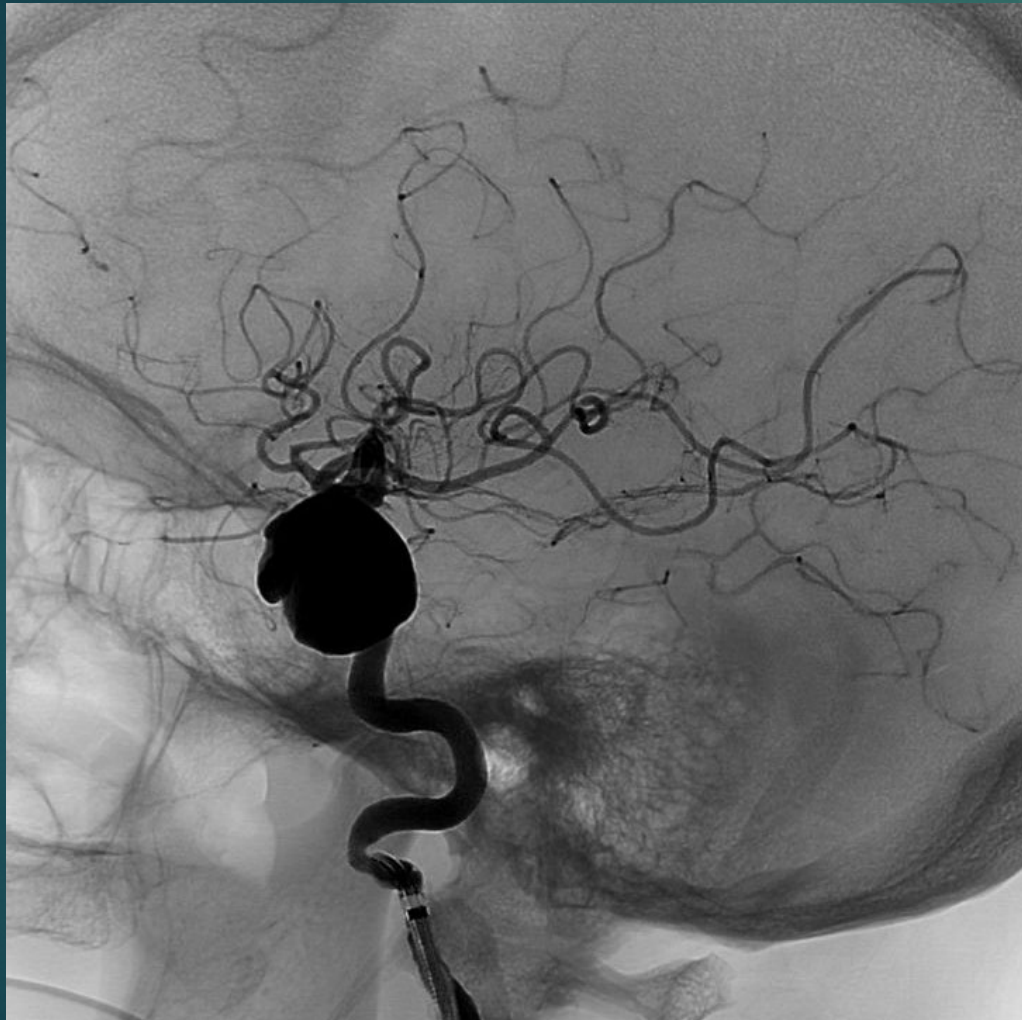
# Loaded with ASA and Plavix for Pipeline Embolization







# Pretreatment and 6 Mo Follow-up





# Case 4

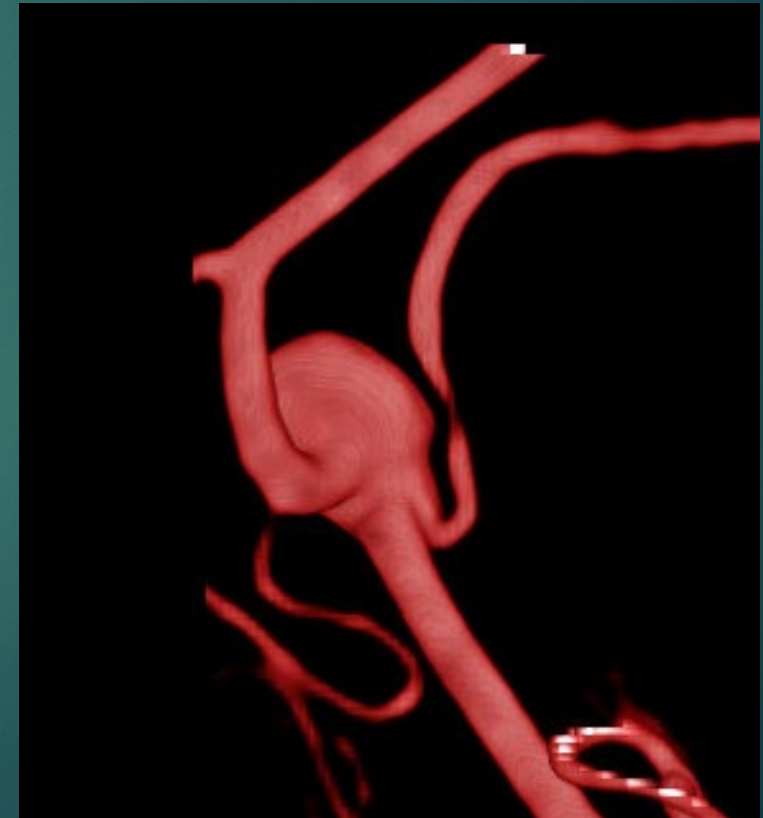
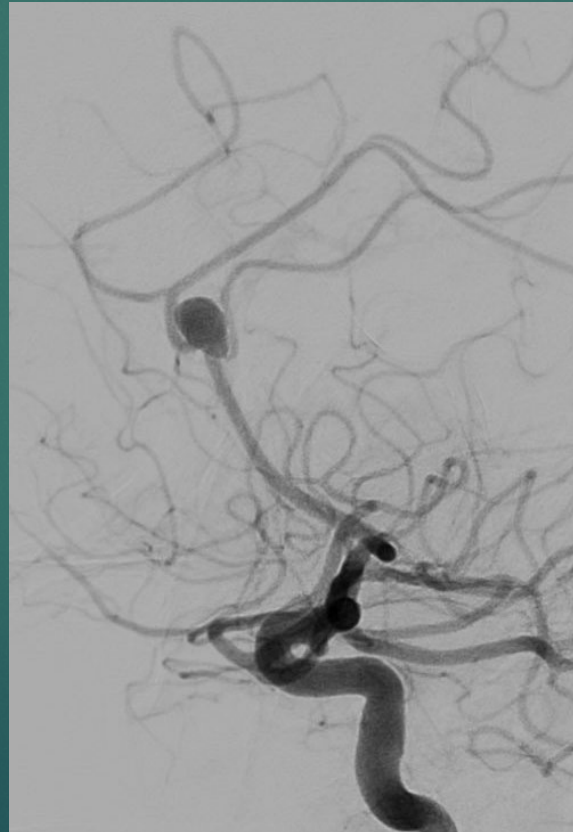
## Endovascular treatment isn't for everyone

56 YO female with enlarging distal ACA aneurysm

MRA Left distal ACA



DSA Distal Left ACA aneurysm

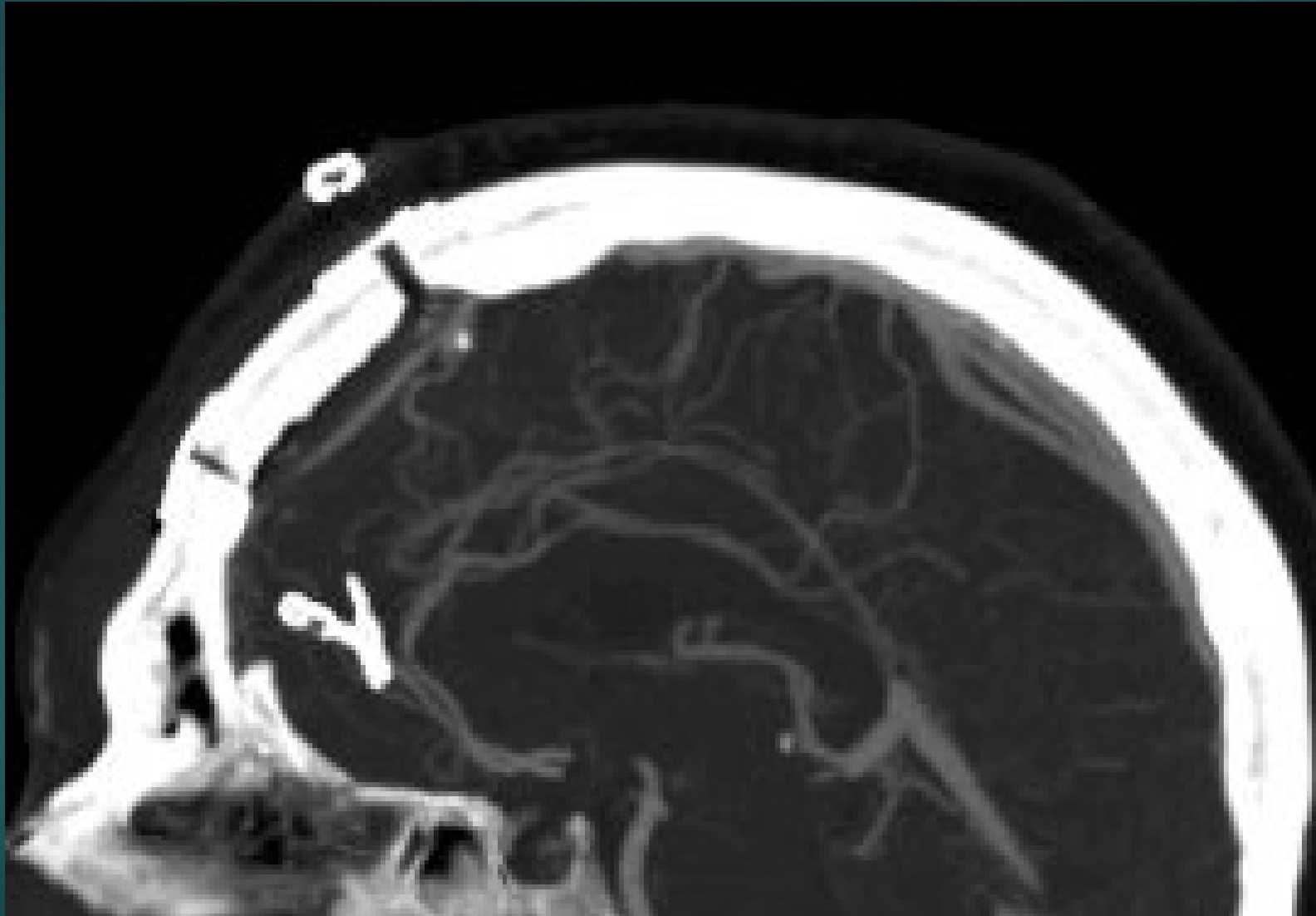


Given Anatomy and Potential for Branch  
loss Clipping was recommended





# Postop CTA



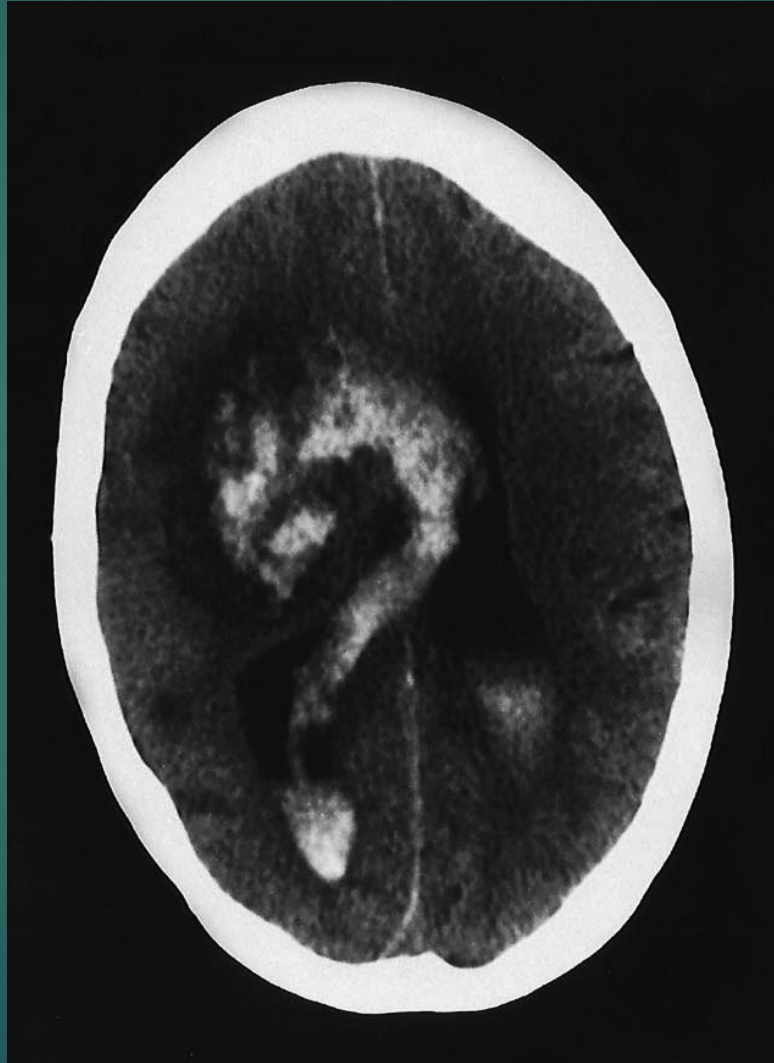
# The Goal

Individualize the best  
treatment possible for  
each patient/aneurysm



# Questions

Email: [wpdaughe@sentara.com](mailto:wpdaughe@sentara.com)



Siliman S. *N Engl J Med.* 2001 Oct 11;345(15):1105.