



*for DIFF'RENT
FOLKS*

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October 29, 2010

Easily identifiable stroke signs

- Unilateral hemiparesis, facial droop
- Gaze paresis/deviation
- Aphasia
- Neglect
- Ataxia
- Confusion
- Coma

What about ...

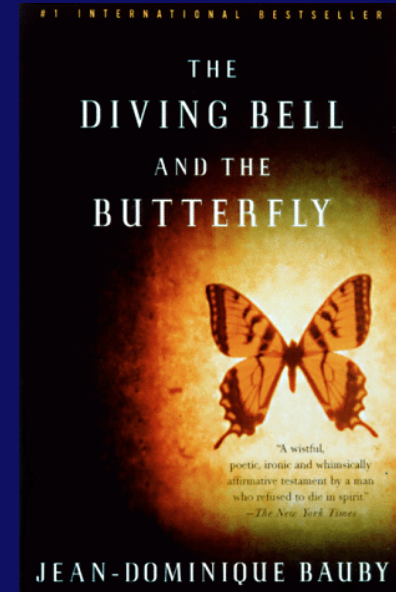
- Eyes open/blink but cannot talk and no limb movement at all?
- c/o hand not working right, but no weakness, aphasia, or sensory loss?
- Acute onset of amnesia, but no confusion, weakness, or aphasia?

“Different” stroke presentations

- Brainstem
 - Locked-in syndrome
- Lacunar stroke syndromes
- Cortical areas
 - Transient global amnesia
- Really unusual presentations

Locked-in syndrome

- Clinical symptoms/signs:
 - Quadriplegia, mute
 - Intact awareness and alertness
 - Intact blinking
 - Intact vertical eye movements
- Lesion :
 - Ventral pons
 - Most often from basilar artery thrombosis



Other brainstem syndromes

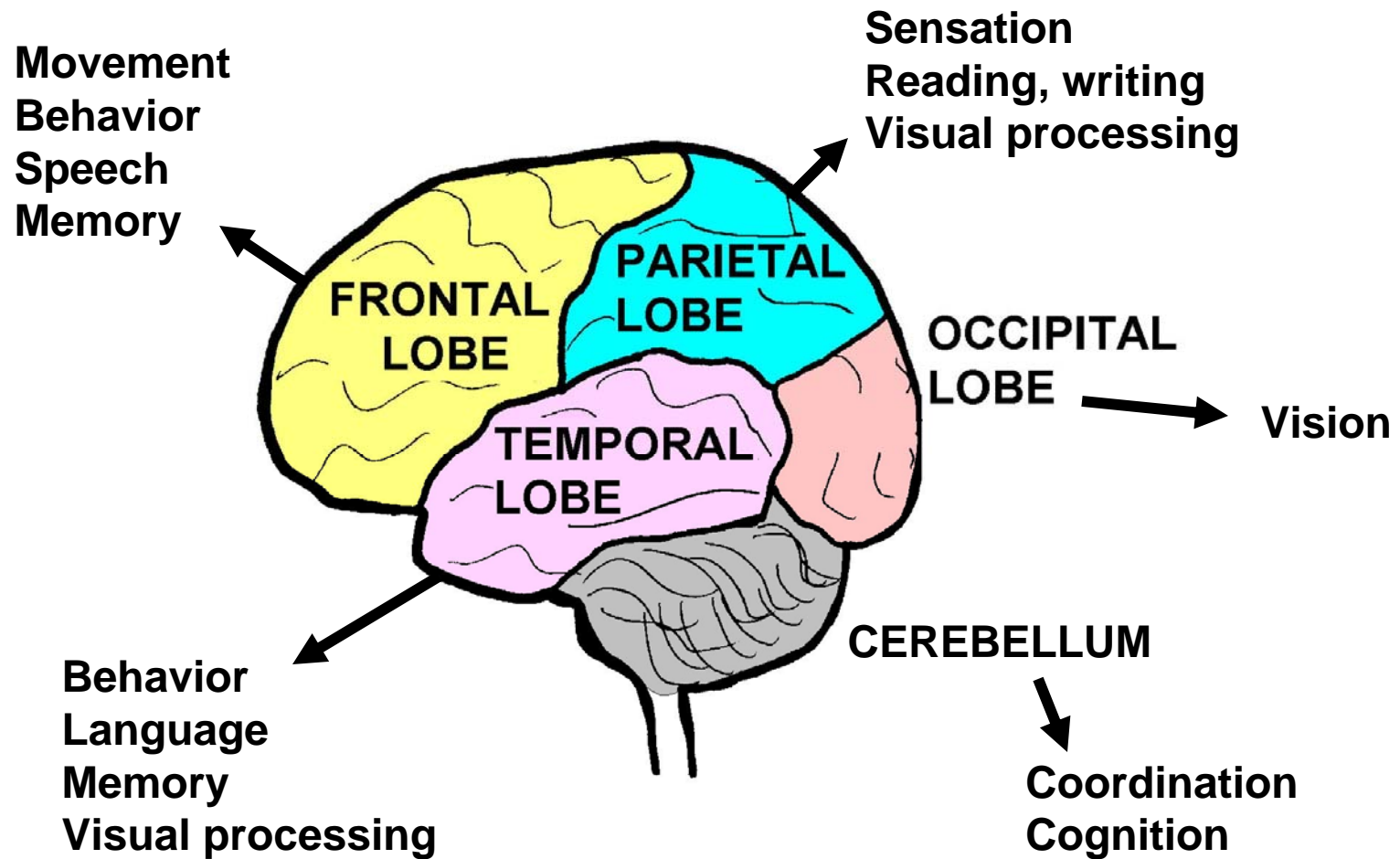
- Syndromes : Wallenberg, Benedikt, Weber, Foville, Nothnagel
- Clinical red flags :
 - Face symptoms on opposite side from body symptoms (sensory, motor)
 - Ataxia on opposite side from sensory loss or weakness



Lacunar stroke syndromes

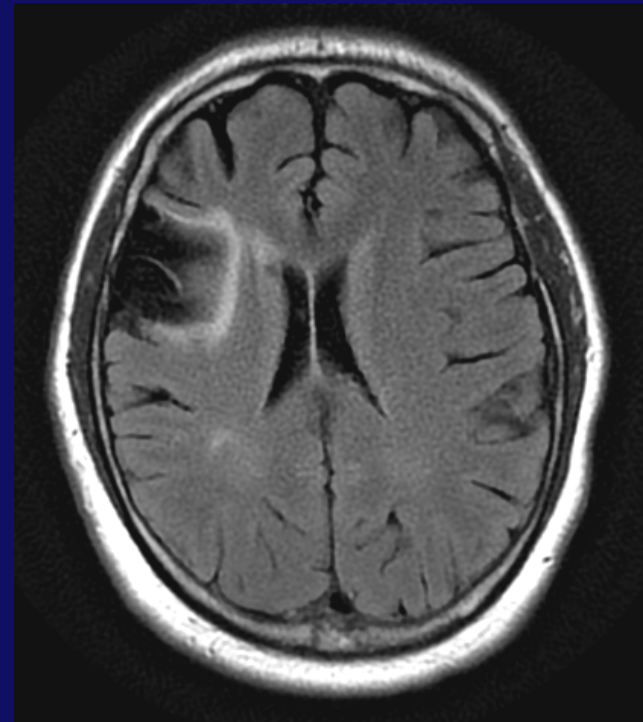
- Clumsy hand-dysarthria
- Ataxic hemiparesis (arm, leg)
- Pure motor hemiparesis (face, arm, leg)
- Pure sensory (face, arm, trunk, leg)

Functions of brain lobes



Cortical stroke syndromes

- Frontal lobes
 - Behavioral changes
 - Apathy, decr'd motivation
 - Disinhibition
 - Catatonia
 - Akinetic mutism



Cortical stroke syndromes (cont'd)

- Parietal lobes
 - Alexia w/ agraphia
 - Visual, spatial, or body neglect
 - Anton's syndrome
 - Non-recognition & denial of cortical blindness
 - Gerstmann's syndrome
 - Agraphia
 - Acalculia
 - Finger agnosia
 - Right-left disorientation

Cortical stroke syndromes (cont'd)

- Occipital lobes
 - Visual field cut
 - Alexia w/o agraphia
 - Prosopagnosia
 - Akinetopsia
 - Achromatopsia

Transient global amnesia

- Attention intact
- No loss of personal identity
- Able to do complex motor actions
- Marked loss of memory
 - Repetitive questioning
 - Unable to remember what did before/since onset

Transient global amnesia (cont'd)

- Differential Dx : posterior circulation TIA
- Medial temporal lobes & hippocampi critical for learning new information
 - Areas supplied by posterior cerebral arteries

Really unusual presentations

- Alien limb syndrome
- Foreign accent syndrome; dialect changes
- *Fou rire prodromique*
 - Pathologic laughter before or at stroke onset