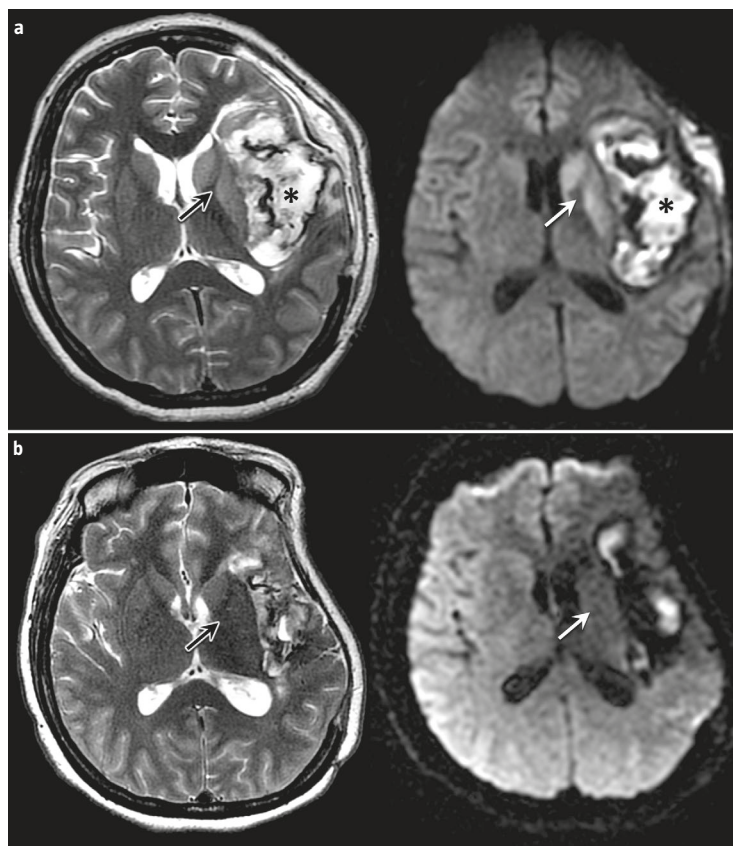


## Transient reduced diffusion on magnetic resonance imaging due to transneuronal degeneration of the striatum

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**Figure.** Magnetic resonance image. a) Magnetic resonance image on day 30 showed  $T_2$  hyperintensity (black arrow) in the head of the caudate and the putamen separated from the hematoma (asterisk) with restricted diffusion on DWI (white arrow); b) By day 90 these abnormalities were resolved (white arrow), leaving subtle atrophic changes in the striatum (black arrow).

A 45-year-old woman with a left insular aneurysmatic subarachnoid hemorrhage was treated with coils and decompressive craniectomy. Subsequent follow-up magnetic resonance imagings, 30 and 90 days after clinical onset, demonstrated transient reduced diffusion signal and  $T_2$  hyperintensity in the ipsilateral striatum but separated from the hematoma (Figure). These abnormalities were not associated with any neurologic deficit.

Injuries to the corticostriatal pathways caused by hemorrhage or surgery involving the external capsule may induce transneuronal degeneration of the striatum [1]. It is convenient to know this uncommon entity because it mimics an acute ischemic lesion from another cause and should not be mistaken [2].

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