We report the case of a 79-year-old female dialysis patient who suffered a vertebral artery (VA) injury complicated by a herald bleeding on the 3rd post-intervention day after an internal jugular vein dialysis catheter replacement" Tasopoulou et al (2018).

Abstract:

Central venous (CV) catheterization is not only an invaluable diagnostic modality but also an essential therapeutic tool for the treating physician, enabling rapid and reliable intravenous administration of drugs and fluids, providing venous access to patients undergoing long-term continuous or repeated intravenous treatment such as chemotherapy or it can be used for haemodialysis in patients suffering from acute or chronic renal disease. On the other hand, CV catheterization can lead to a wide range of life-threatening complications for the patient especially if left untreated or become late-diagnosed. In particular, arterial injuries are among the most feared complications that require early clinical suspicion for prompt diagnosis and management. We report the case of a 79-year-old female dialysis patient who suffered a vertebral artery (VA) injury complicated by a herald bleeding on the 3rd post-intervention day after an internal jugular vein dialysis catheter replacement. The patient initially presented neurological signs of a stroke and urgently treated endovascularly after immediate diagnosis of VA rupture was made. Imaging techniques are evidence-based tools that help minimize these mechanical complications, including inadvertent arterial puncture and therefore should be practiced and taught in training programs to avoid the potentially devastating

consequences of CV catheterization.

Reference:

Tasopoulou, K.M., Argyriou, C., Mantatzis, M., Kantartzi, K., Passadakis, P. and Georgiadis, G.S. (2018) Endovascular Repair of an Inadvertent Right Vertebral Artery Rupture During Dialysis Catheter Insertion. Annals of Vascular Surgery. May 11th. .

doi: 10.1016/j.avsg.2018.02.022.