

## Cranial Nerve 6 (Abducens Nerve) Palsy Secondary to Schwannoma

Category(ies): [Neuro-ophthalmology](#)

Contributor: [Christopher A Kirkpatrick, MD](#)



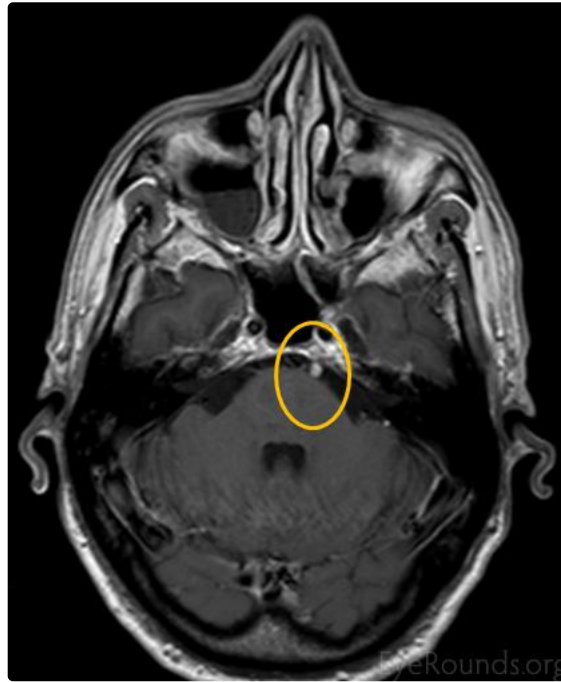
This patient presented with slowly progressive, painless, horizontal, binocular diplopia that worsened with left gaze and resolved in right gaze. She has adopted a mild left face turn and has an esotropia in primary gaze. The esotropia worsens in left gaze and there is an abduction deficit of the left eye. Her findings are consistent with a cranial nerve VI palsy on the left. MRI showed nodular enhancement near the pons along the tract of the sixth nerve on the left that is consistent with a schwannoma of cranial nerve VI.

Cranial nerve VI (CNVI or abducens nerve) innervates the lateral rectus muscle that is responsible for abduction of the eye. Weakness of the lateral rectus will result in binocular, horizontal diplopia that worsens in gaze to the affected side. Patients will have an abduction deficit with an incomitant esotropia that is worse on attempted gaze to the affected side.



[Enlarge](#)

[Download](#)



[Enlarge](#)

[Download](#)

### Image Permissions:



Ophthalmic Atlas Images by [EyeRounds.org](#), [The University of Iowa](#) are licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 3.0 Unported License](#).

### Address

University of Iowa  
Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver College  
of Medicine  
Department of Ophthalmology and  
Visual Sciences  
200 Hawkins Drive  
Iowa City, IA 52242

[Support Us](#)

### Legal

Copyright © 2019 The University of  
Iowa. All Rights Reserved  
[Report an issue with this page](#)  
[Web Privacy Policy](#) |  
[Nondiscrimination Statement](#)

### Related Links

[Cataract Surgery for Greenhorns](#)  
[EyeTransillumination](#)  
[Gonioscopy.org](#)  
[Iowa Glaucoma Curriculum](#)  
[Iowa Wet Lab](#)  
[Patient Information](#)  
[Stone Rounds](#)  
[The Best Hits Bookshelf](#)

### EyeRounds Social Media

Follow



Receive notification of new cases,  
[sign up here](#)  
[Contact Us](#)  
[Submit a Suggestion](#)