

MR  
 : MR 35 20 (57%)  
 MR 가 8 , 가 12 ,  
 25 59 37.5 . MR (cisternal)  
 (ventricular) (contiguity)  
 : 20 5 (25%) 15 (75%)  
 가 12 (60%) 가 18  
 (90%), 17 (85%), 16 (80%) T1  
 , T2, FLAIR 17 (85%)  
 (crescentic), (confluent), (amorphous) (patchy),  
 17 14 (82%) (tubular)  
 (cisternal) (ventricular)  
 (100%) 15 (88%)  
 12 7 (58%)  
 : MR  
 가

(1), MR (MR) 13).  
 (CT), (evoked potential)  
 (2).  
 (3, 4),  
 (5). , Poser (14) (Table  
 1) , (clin-  
 ically definite) 20  
 MR . MR  
 35  
 MR (3, 12,  
 , Poser (14) 59  
 가 8 , 가 12

25 59 37.5 .  
 9 , 6 ,  
 가 5 , 가 3 , 가 2 ,  
 2 , 가 2 , 2 ,  
 가 1 (Table 2).  
 1.0T MR (Shimadzu, Kyoto, Japan) ,  
 T1 (TR/TE= 500/20

msec), T2 (TR/TE=2500/90 msec),  
 (TR/TE=2500/30 msec) FLAIR  
 (TR/TE/TI=6000/110/1700 msec) ,  
 17 T2 .  
 20 12 Gd-DTPA(0.1 mmol/kg)

**Table 1.** Diagnostic Criteria for Multiple Sclerosis

Category : Diagnostic criteria	
Clinically definite MS:	
Two attacks at least 1 month apart with clinical evidence of two separate lesions	
Two attacks at least 1 month apart with clinical evidence of one lesion and paraclinical evidence of another lesion	
Laboratory-supported definite MS:	
Two attacks at least 1 month apart with clinical or paraclinical evidence of one lesion and a positive laboratory test on CSF	
One attack with clinical evidence of two separate lesions and a positive laboratory test on the CSF	
One attack with clinical evidence of one lesion, paraclinical evidence of another lesion and a positive laboratory test on the CSF	
Clinical probable MS:	
Two attacks with clinical evidence of one lesion	
One attack with clinical evidence of two separate lesions	
One attack with clinical evidence of one lesion and paraclinical evidence of another lesion	
Laboratory-supported probable MS:	
Two attacks and a positive laboratory test on the CSF	
CSF: cerebrospinal fluid	

MR (Table 2). 20  
 5 (25%) , 5  
 가 1 , 가 가 2 ,  
 가 가 2 ,  
 . 15 (75%)  
 , 가  
 가 1 , 가 가 1 ,  
 가 가 3 , 가  
 가 10 , ,  
 (Table 3).  
 18 (90%), 17 (85%), 16 (80%)  
 (Table 4). 10 ,  
 7 , 6 , 2 , 1 .

**Table 2.** Summary of Clinical Symptoms and Location of the Lesions in Multiple Sclerosis of Total 20 Cases

Case Number	Sex/ Age	Symptoms	Brainstem Locations	Other Locations
1	F/36	dysarthria, paraplegia	MB, pons, MO	
2	F/42	Lt. upper limb weakness	Lt. pons, MO	cervical cord
3	M/26	Rt. quadraopsia, dizziness	pons, Rt. MCP, MO	PVWM
4	F/32	vertigo, dizziness	MB, pons, both MCP, MO	PVWM, CC, Rt. thalamus
5	M/29	vertigo, dizziness	MB, pons, MO	PVWM, CC, cbl
6	F/36	vertigo, ataxia, nystagmus	MB, Lt. pons, Lt. MCP, MO	PVWM
7	F/45	Rt. hemiparesis, gait disturbance	MB, pons	PVWM
8	M/46	diplopia, Rt. facial paresthesia	MB, Rt. MO	
9	F/42	Lt. nystagmus, dysarthria	Rt. pons, MO	cervical cord
10	F/25	paraplegia	MB, pons, MO	PVWM, CC, cervical cord
11	M/28	vertigo, dizziness, nystagmus	MB, Rt. MO	
12	F/59	visual loss	MB, pons, MCP, MO	CC
13	F/30	Lt. hemiparesis	MB, pons, MO	PVWM, cervical cord
14	M/57	vertigo, diplopia	MB, Rt. pons, Rt. MO	cervical cord
15	M/39	seizure, mental loss	MB, pons, Lt. MCP, MO	PVWM, CC, cervical cord
16	F/39	seizure, dizziness, nystagmus	MB, pons, MO	PVWM, CC, cervical cord
17	M/33	dizziness, vertigo	MB, Lt. pons, MO	
18	M/25	visual loss	Rt. pons	
19	F/40	mental loss	Lt. MCP, MO	Lt. thalamus, cervical cord
20	F/40	vertigo, diplopia	MB, Lt. MCP, MO	PVWM

MB: midbrain, MCP: middle cerebellar peduncle, MO: medulla oblongata, cbl.: cerebellum, PVWM: periventricular white matter, CC: corpus callosum

T1 FLAIR 17 (85%)  
 T2 (Fig. 2).  
 17 14 (82%) (Fig. 3, 4).  
 (100%)  
 88%(15/17) (Fig. 1) (Table 4).  
 12 7 (58%)  
 5  
 2).  
 가  
 (15). 20 - 40

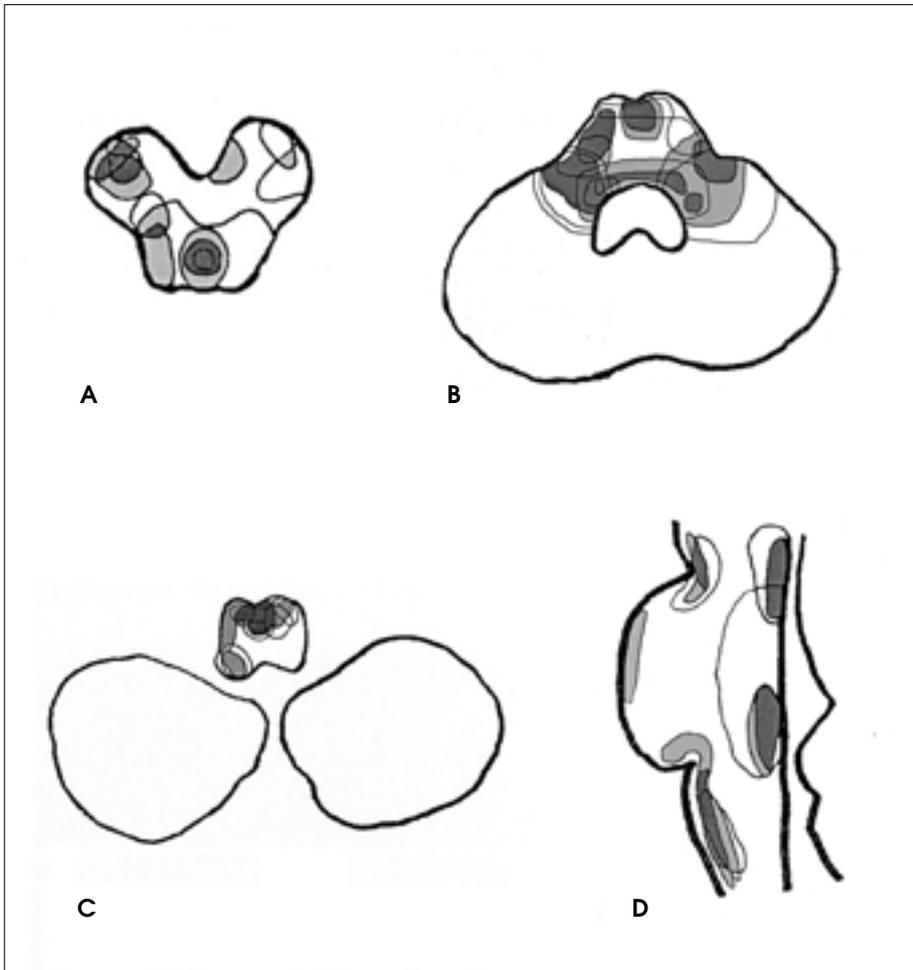
**Table 3.** The Distribution of Brainstem Lesions in Total 20 Cases of Multiple Sclerosis

Involvement site	Brainstem only	Brainstem+Other sites	Total
Midbrain only	0	0	0
Pons only	1	0	1
MO only	0	0	0
Midbrain + Pons	0	1	1
Midbrain + MO	2	1	3
Pons + MO	0	3	3
Midbrain + Pons + MO	2	10	12
Total	5	15	20

MO: Medulla oblongata

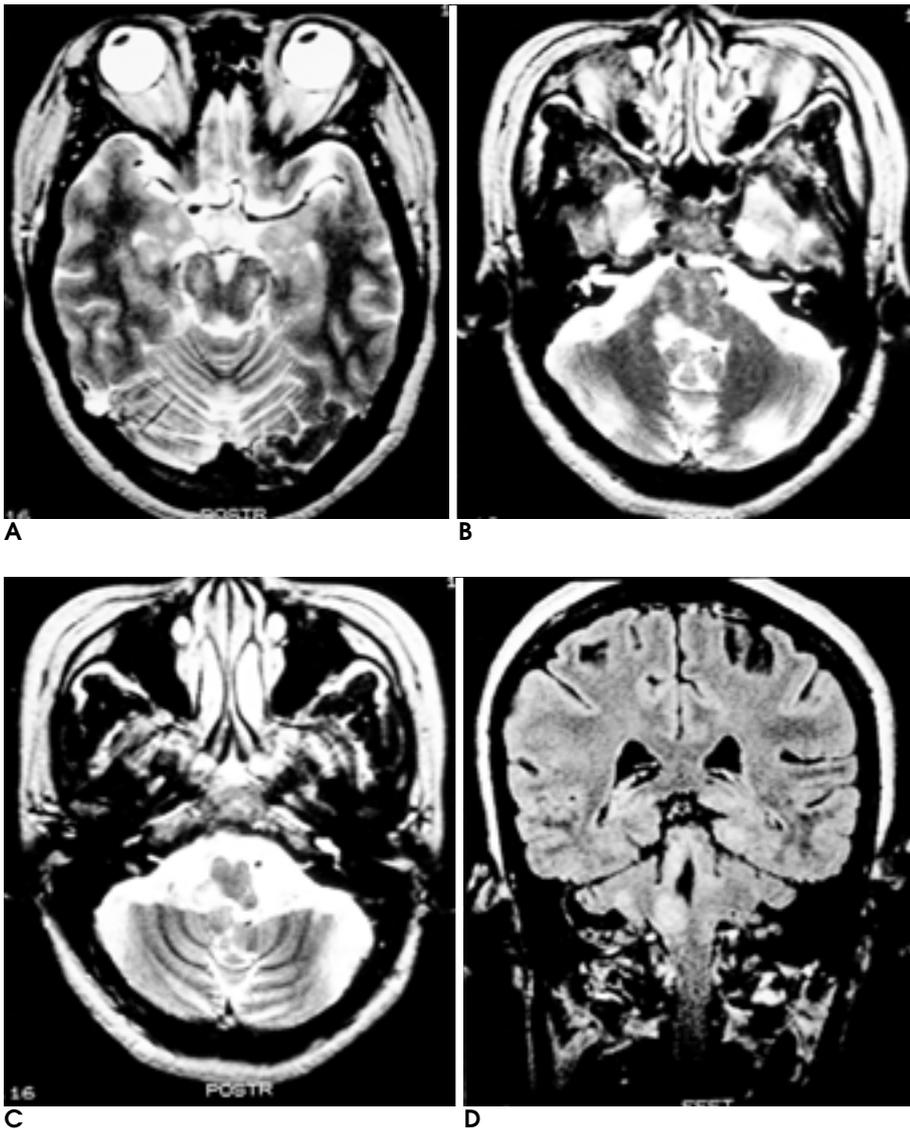
**Table 4.** The Frequency and Contiguity with Cisternal or Ventricular CSF Space in Total 20 Brainstem Lesions

Location	No. of Patients(%)	No. of Contiguity to CSF space(%)
Midbrain	16(80)	16(100)
Pons	17(85)	15 (88)
Medulla oblongata	18(90)	18(100)



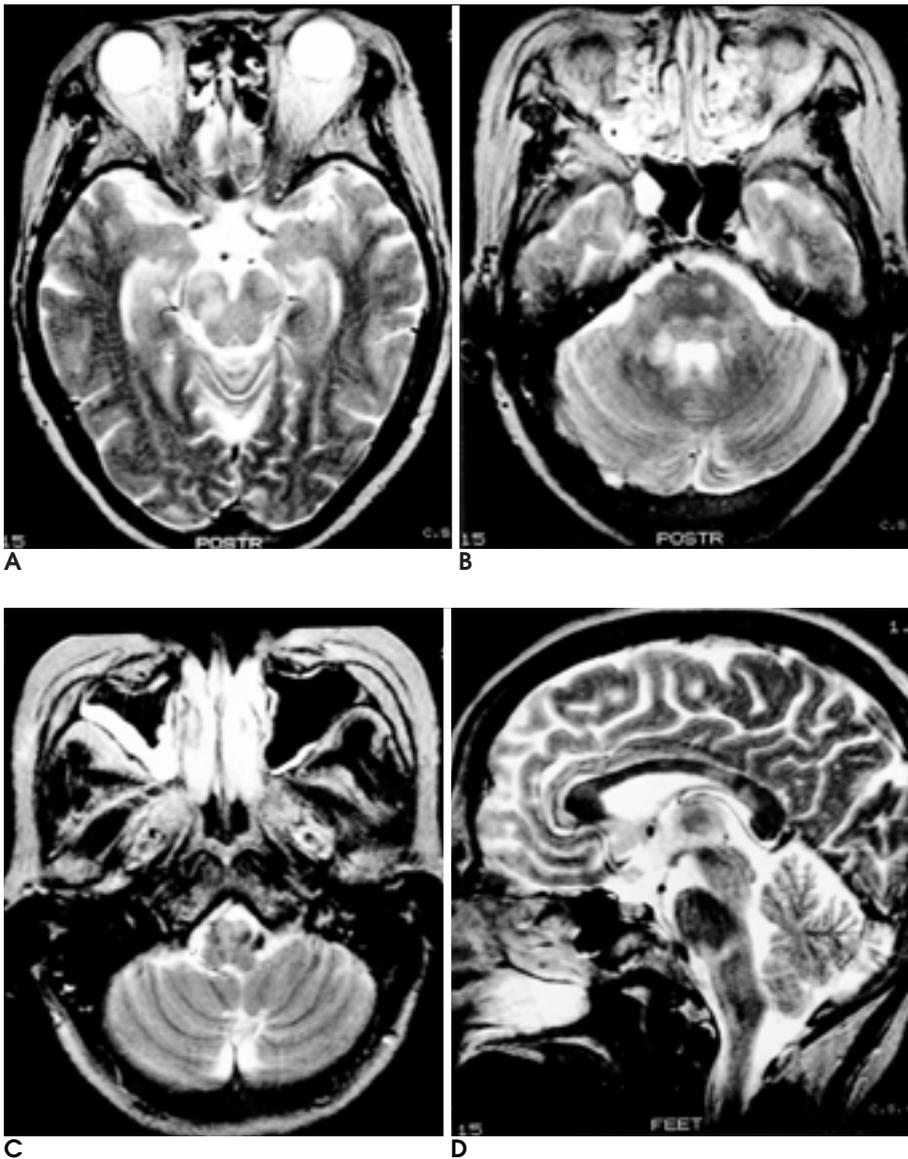
**Fig. 1.** Schematic drawing of brainstem MR lesions in 20 patients with multiple sclerosis (A: midbrain, B: middle pons, C: medulla oblongata, D: mid-sagittal section of brainstem).





**Fig. 3.** A 40-year-old woman with vertigo and diplopia (Case 20). **A, B, C.** Axial T2 weighted images show high signal intensity lesions in midbrain, pons and medulla oblongata and these lesions are contiguous with ventricular CSF space. **D.** FLAIR coronal images show long tubular high signal intensity lesions in midbrain and medulla oblongata.

(2, 17). T1 (17) , 4 99%  
 , T2  
 MR 15 (88%)  
 Wilms (11) 가  
 , Brainin (12)  
 T2  
 T2 Comi (13) 49%  
 T2 , Runge (18)  
 Brainin (12) MR 17 (85%)  
 . Sheldon (5)  
 , Offenbacher 82%(14/20)



**Fig. 4.** A 59-year-old woman with visual loss (Case 12).

**A, B, C.** Axial T2 weighted images show multiple high signal intensity lesions of various size and shape in mid-brain, pons, both middle cerebellar peduncles and medulla oblongata, and most of these lesions are contiguous with cisternal or ventricular CSF space. **D.** Sagittal T2-weighted image shows patchy high signal intensity lesions in corpus callosum, and long tubular shaped high signal intensity lesion in pons and medulla oblongata.

가

(blood brain barrier) 가 (12, 19).  
MR

MR  
가

(9, 12, 17).

58%

(acute disseminated encephalomyelitis),  
(progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy),  
(Behcet 's syndrome),  
(Lyme  
disease)  
(6).

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## MRI Findings of Multiple Sclerosis Involving the Brainstem<sup>1</sup>

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**Purpose:** To describe MRI findings of multiple sclerosis involving the brainstem.

**Materials and Methods:** Among 35 cases of clinically definite multiple sclerosis, the authors retrospectively analysed 20 in which the brainstem was involved. MR images were analysed with regard to involvement sites in the brainstem or other locations, signal intensity, multiplicity, shape, enhancement pattern, and contiguity of brainstem lesions with cisternal or ventricular CSF space.

**Results:** The brainstem was the only site of involvement in five cases (25%), while simultaneous involvement of the brainstem and other sites was observed in 15 cases (75%). No case involved only the midbrain or medulla oblongata, and simultaneous involvement of the midbrain, pons and medulla oblongata was noted in 12 cases (60%). The most frequently involved region of the brainstem was the medulla oblongata (n = 18; 90%), followed by the pons (n = 17; 85%) and the midbrain (n = 16; 80%). Compared with normal white matter, brainstem lesions showed low signal intensity on T1 weighted images, and high signal intensity on T2 weighted, proton density weighted, and FLAIR images. In 17 cases (85%), multiple intensity was observed, and the shape of lesions varied: oval, round, elliptical, patchy, crescentic, confluent or amorphous areas were seen on axial MR images, and in 14 cases (82%), coronal or sagittal scanning showed that lesions were long and tubular. Contiguity between brainstem lesions and cisternal or ventricular CSF space was seen in all cases (100%) involving midbrain (16/16) and medulla oblongata (18/18) and in 15 of 17 (88%) involving the pons. Contrast enhancement was apparent in 7 of 12 cases (58%).

**Conclusion:** In the brainstem, MRI demonstrated partial or total contiguity between lesions and cisternal or ventricular CSF space, and coronal or sagittal images showed that lesions were long and tubular.

**Index words :** Brainstem, MR  
Sclerosis, multiple

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