

# Intraplaque hemorrhage on carotid mri in stroke patients

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# Intraplaque Hemorrhage on carotid MRI in stroke patients: on the Road Towards Clinical Application

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Maastricht, 12 December 2023

- 1. Intraplaque hemorrhage is caused by the entry of blood from the vascular lumen through fissures or ruptures in the fibrous cap. (this thesis)
- 2. Carotid intraplaque hemorrhage does not show an increase over a two-year period in stroke patients who initiated antiplatelet treatment after the event compared to those who had already their antiplatelet medication. (this thesis)
- 3. Routinely acquired mask images from CE-MRA can be used to visualize IPH. (this thesis)
- 4. MATCH images of carotid plaque acquired with a single 5-minute scan, are suitable for scoring plaque components like the presence of a lipid-rich necrotic core and intraplague hemorrhage. (this thesis)
- 5. Incorporating MRI for detecting carotid IPH into the clinical care of ischemic stroke patients with carotid artery disease will facilitate personalized treatment. (impact)
- 6. In clinical trials, imaging endpoints can provide objective measures of treatment efficacy, helping to bring new therapies to the market.
- 7. Randomized control trials are required to assess the benefit of carotid revascularization in patients with a high-risk plaque, such as plaques with intraplaque hemorrhage (IPH).
- 8. One day, evaluation of plaque characteristics will be part of standard clinical care, rather than solely relying on the degree of stenosis, in patients with ischemic cardiovascular diseases
- 9. Science is the art of asking 'why' and the skill of finding 'how'.
- 10. "Life isn't about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself." George Bernard Shaw