

Pediatric cerebrovascular disease.

The most common presentation of cerebrovascular disease is an [ischemic stroke](#) or mini-stroke and sometimes a [hemorrhagic stroke](#). [Hypertension](#) (high blood pressure) is the most important contributing risk factor for stroke and cerebrovascular diseases as it can change the structure of blood vessels and result in [atherosclerosis](#).

Cerebrovascular diseases have traditionally been classified, diagnosed and managed based on their luminal characteristics. However, over the past several years, several advancements in MRI techniques have ushered in [high-resolution vessel wall imaging](#) (HR-VWI), enabling evaluation of intracranial vessel wall pathology. These advancements now allow us to differentiate diseases which have a common angiographic appearance but vastly different natural histories (i.e. moyamoya versus atherosclerosis, reversible cerebral vasoconstriction syndrome versus vasculitis, stable versus unstable intracranial aneurysms)¹⁾.

[Aneurysm](#).

[Arteriovenous malformation](#).

[Ischemic cerebrovascular disease](#).

[Intracerebral hemorrhage](#).

[Moyamoya disease](#)

¹⁾

Brinjikji W, Mossa-Basha M, Huston J, Rabinstein AA, Lanzino G, Lehman VT. Intracranial vessel wall imaging for evaluation of steno-occlusive diseases and intracranial aneurysms. *J Neuroradiol*. 2016 Nov 8; pii: S0150-9861(16)30173-0. doi: 10.1016/j.neurad.2016.10.003. [Epub ahead of print] Review. PubMed PMID: 27836652.

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