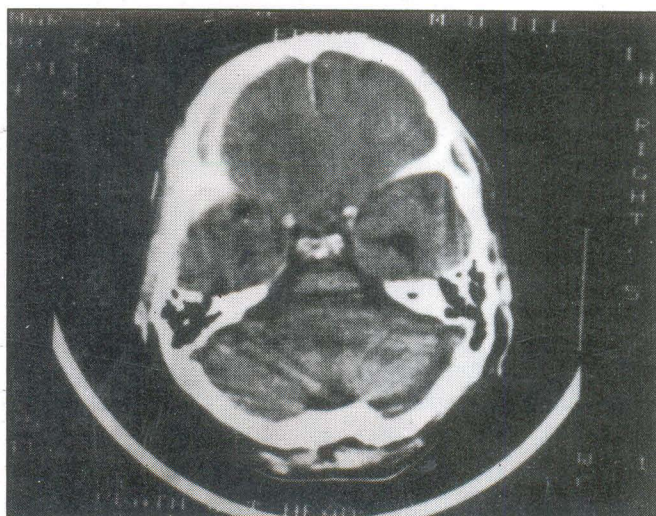
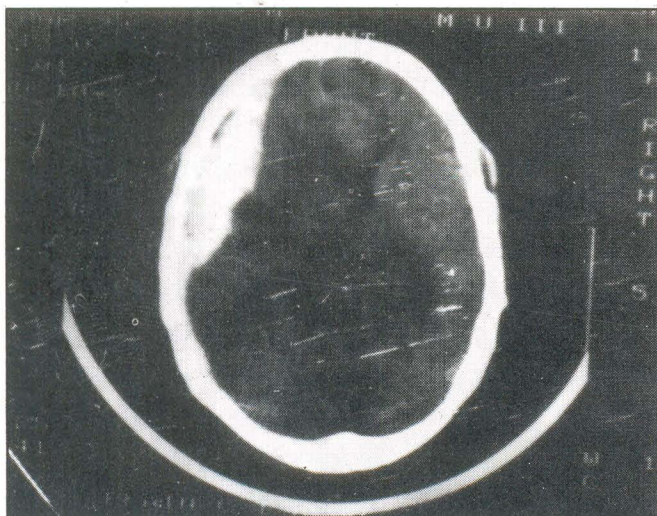


Acute Subdural Haematoma (SDH) Mimicking Extradural Haematoma (EDH)

Anil Sharma, MCh



CT Scan films showing acute SDH as a biconvex lesion and its appearance in sylvian area. Presented above is the CT Scan of a patient who after an alcoholic bout, had a fall and presented with features of loss of consciousness, vomiting and hemiparesis. Scalp examination did not reveal any bruising/haematoma. CT Scan showed an extra-axial bleed with mass effect. No fracture was seen on bony window. He was operated upon for what turned out to be acute SDH on surgery. He improved and was discharged.

Acute SDH is usually sickle or crescent shaped on CT scan. The inner surface of the haematoma outlines the contours of the brain and therefore has a characteristic sawtooth figure in the region of sylvian fissure. Rarely, a large acute SDH may appear biconvex and resemble EDH. This is distinguished from the latter by the appearance of its corners being drawn out to a fine point as compared to the rounded anterior and posterior borders formed by the dura, displaced by an EDH. In addition, the irregular appearance of the inner border of SDH especially in region of sylvian fissure is characteristic.

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