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Reversed flow in the ophthalmic artery due to internal carotid artery obstruction

Flujo reverso en arteria oftálmica por obstrucción de la carótida interna

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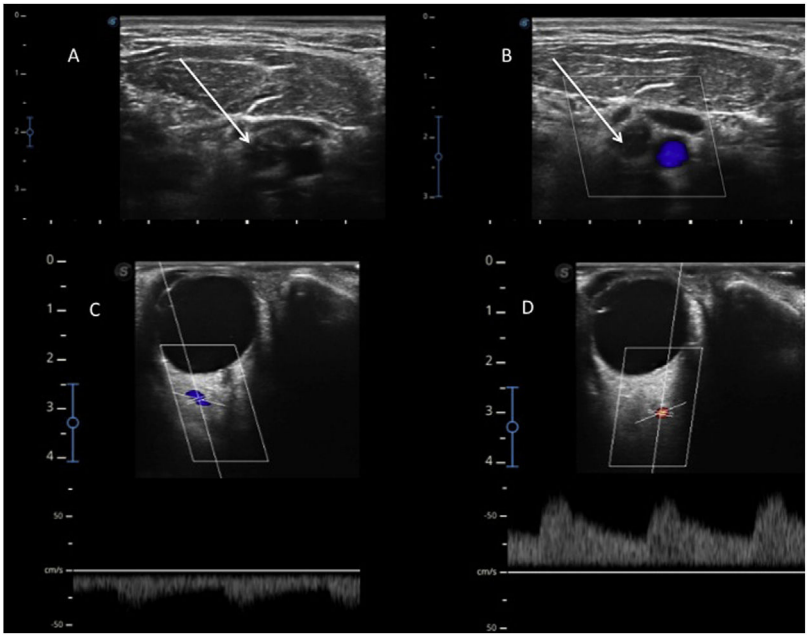

Figure 1

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This is the case of a patient with complete occlusion of the internal carotid artery (Fig. 1A and B, arrows). A Doppler study using a transorbital approach of the ipsilateral ophthalmic artery reveals the presence of reversed Flow because the ophthalmic artery is being filled through naso-angular anastomosis where the external carotid artery meets the branches of the internal carotid artery via the facial artery nasal branch that anastomoses with the orbital branch of the ophthalmic artery (Fig. 1C). The Doppler ultrasound of the contralateral ophthalmic artery (Fig. 1D) reveals a positive flow for comparison purposes. Flow reversal in the ophthalmic artery is a specific ultrasound sign of critical or complete occlusion of the ipsilateral internal carotid artery.