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## Tzu Chi Medical Journal

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Letter to the Editor

### Re: Methanol intoxication with bilateral putaminal and occipital necrosis. *Tzu Chi Med J* 2010;22:160–163.

To the Editor,

I enjoyed reading the manuscript titled “Methanol intoxication with bilateral putaminal and occipital necrosis” that was published in your journal [1]. After presentation of the computed tomography (CT) and magnetic resonance imaging findings in the brain in a case of methanol poisoning, the authors stated that their case was a unique presentation of bilateral occipital and putaminal necrosis with no previous reports in the literature.

A previously published manuscript by Taheri and colleagues (that has been online since December 2008; approximately 9 months before the receipt of the Lin et al manuscript by your journal) [2], however, gave information about 42 consecutive patients with acute methanol intoxication. Of these, 28 patients (66.6%) had a total of 55 pathological findings on their brain CT scans, 5 (9.1%) of which were hypodense white matter lesions in the occipital lobe (compatible with the diagnosis of necrosis) accompanying the other pathological findings. This shows that the occipital lesions in the brain seen on CT scan are documented complications of

methanol intoxication. If the authors had performed a simple search using PubMed, they could easily have retrieved the abovementioned study. I suggest the authors to perform an accurate search for their review of the literature. Thanks for this interesting report.

#### References

- [1] Lin SH, Tseng GF, Liang CC, Hung YC. Methanol intoxication with bilateral putaminal and occipital necrosis. *Tzu Chi Med J* 2010;22:160–3.
- [2] Taheri MS, Moghaddam HH, Moharamzad Y, Dadgari S, Nahvi V. The value of brain CT findings in acute methanol toxicity. *Eur J Radiol* 2010;73:211–4.

Hossein Sanaei-Zadeh\*  
Department of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology,  
Tehran University of Medical Sciences,  
Hazrat Rasoul Akram Hospital, Tehran, Iran

\* Tel./fax: +98 21 66551201.  
E-mail address: [h-sanaiezadeh@tums.ac.ir](mailto:h-sanaiezadeh@tums.ac.ir)