

# Brain abscesses

A brain abscess is a classic complication of hereditary haemorrhagic telangiectasia. It is related to the right-to-left shunt secondary to pulmonary arteriovenous malformations.



### WHAT IS RECOMMENDED

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- Emergency management and treatment (as in non-HHT patients).
- Perform a chest CT scan without injection, or contrast echocardiogram to identify pulmonary arteriovenous malformations (the most common cause of brain abscess in hereditary haemorrhagic telangiectasia), and treat the pulmonary arteriovenous malformations to reduce the risk of recurrence.
- If the patient's clinical condition requires the insertion of a nasogastric tube, this should be soft, of small diameter (unless clinical circumstances demand a large bore tube), and put in place with extreme caution due to the risk of triggering a severe episode of epistaxis related to the presence of mucous telangiectases.



### WHAT YOU SHOULD NOT DO

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- No specific contraindications.