**Incidental Findings on MRI IAMs Investigating Audiovestibular Symptoms**

**Htun H M1, Mui S L 2, Williams C3, Hans P S4**

Aim: To determine the frequency of incidental findings found on Magnetic Resonance Imaging of the Internal Auditory Meatus (MRI IAM) used to investigate audiovestibular symptoms, and to determine how to best manage these when found.

Design: Retrospective review of MRI IAM scans during a 3-month period in the Radiology Department at a UK District General Hospital.

Results: 109 scans were reviewed. Of these, 92.7% showed no retrocochlear pathology; 0.9% was vestibular schwannoma, 6.4% vascular loops, and 2.8% incidental findings that warranted further action and investigation. 40.4% showed other incidental pathologies such as age-related ischaemic changes and sinus disease, which required no further intervention. 49.5% of MRIs reviewed were entirely normal.

Conclusion: Our study demonstrated that almost half of scans investigating audiovestibular symptoms showed incidental findings. Otolaryngologists should have an understanding of the significance of the most commonly encountered incidental findings, counsel patients appropriately, and refer onward when necessary.

Key words: MRI IAM, audiovestibular symptoms, vestibular schwannoma, incidental findings