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Reply:

L. Vedolin

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REPLY:

We greatly appreciate Dr Mascalchi's interest in our article "Inherited Cerebellar Ataxia in Childhood: A Pattern-Recognition Approach Using Brain MRI."¹ We agree that many cases of Friedreich ataxia (FRDA) have normal MR imaging findings at the time of diagnosis and that a visually normal cerebellum in a child with ataxia usually suggests FRDA. We also concur that volume loss and decreased fractional anisotropy by diffusion tensor imaging of the superior cerebellar peduncles and iron deposition on T2* are potential biomarkers for this disease.^{2,3}

REFERENCES

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2. Della Nave R, Ginestroni A, Diciotti S, et al. **Axial diffusivity is increased in the degenerating superior cerebellar peduncles of Friedreich's ataxia.** *Neuroradiology* 2011;53:367–72
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