

Presentation

- Ipsilateral
 - Enophthalmos -Posterior displacement of the globe
 - Ptosis - drooping of the upper eyelid.
 - Pupillary miosis - small or constricted pupils
 - Facial anhidrosis - loss of sweating
- Due to disruption at some point of the oculosympathetic pathway.
- Ptosis
 - Due to interruption of the sympathetic motor innervation of the superior tarsal muscle which is a small muscle composed of smooth muscle fibers intimately associated with the undersurface of levator palpebrae superioris muscle.
- Muscle inserts into the tarsal plate of the upper eyelid and controls eyelid elevation and retraction

Horner's Syndrome

Oculosympathetic palsy

Normal eye

Functioning eyelid

Normal pupil

White eye

Sweat

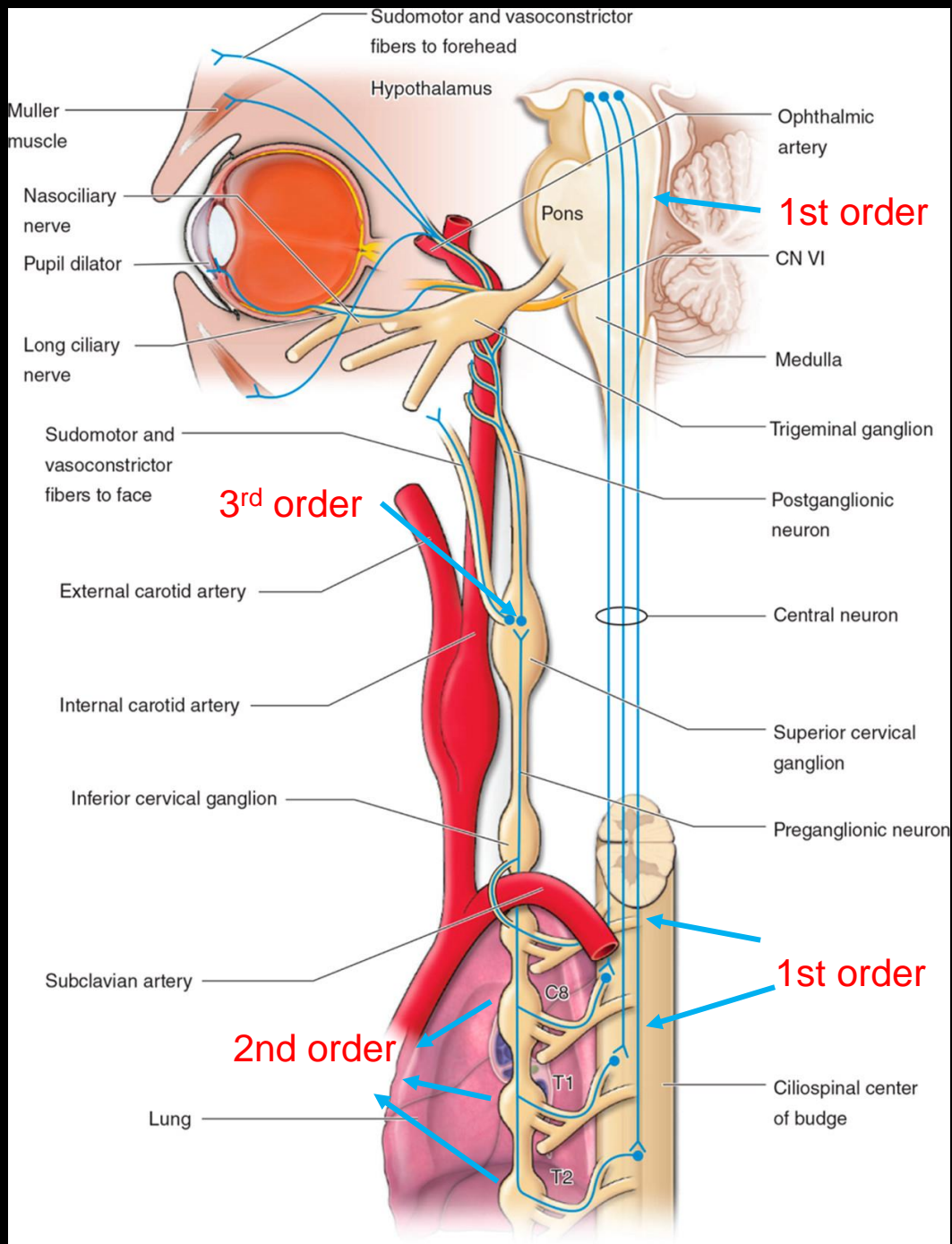
Horner's syndrome

Drooping upper eyelid

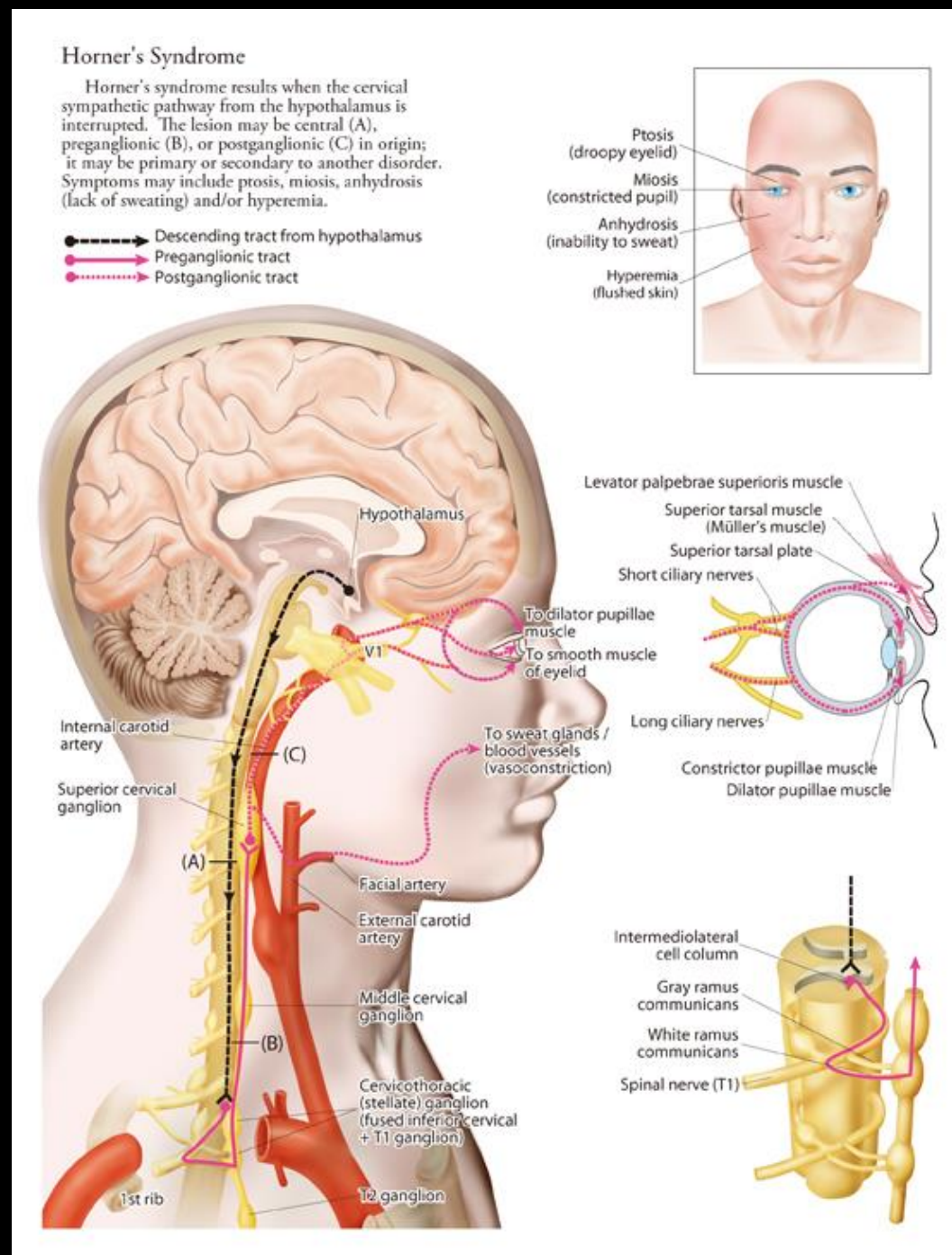
Constricted pupil

Bloodshot eye

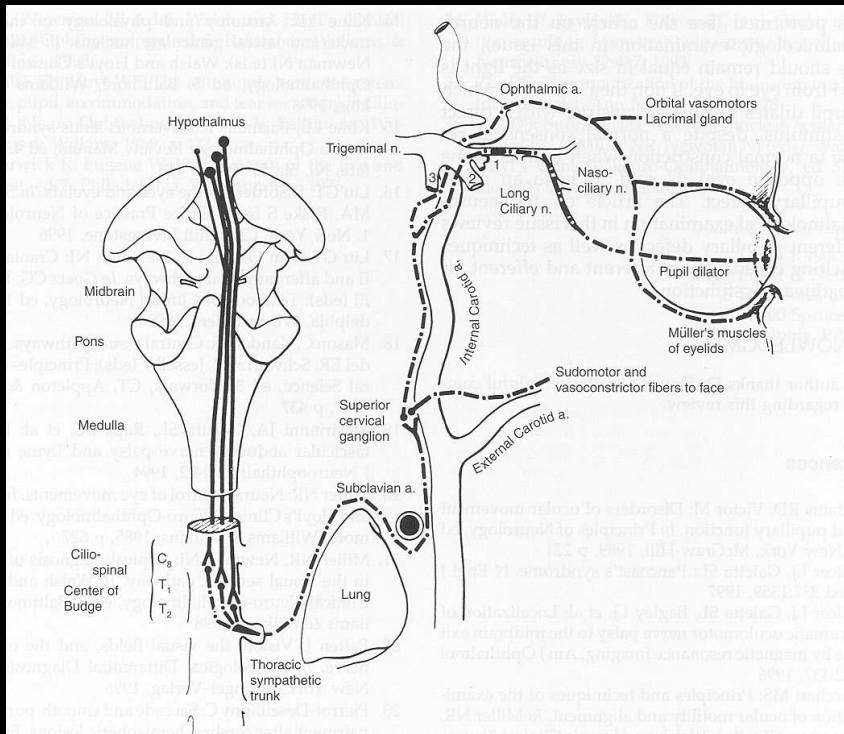
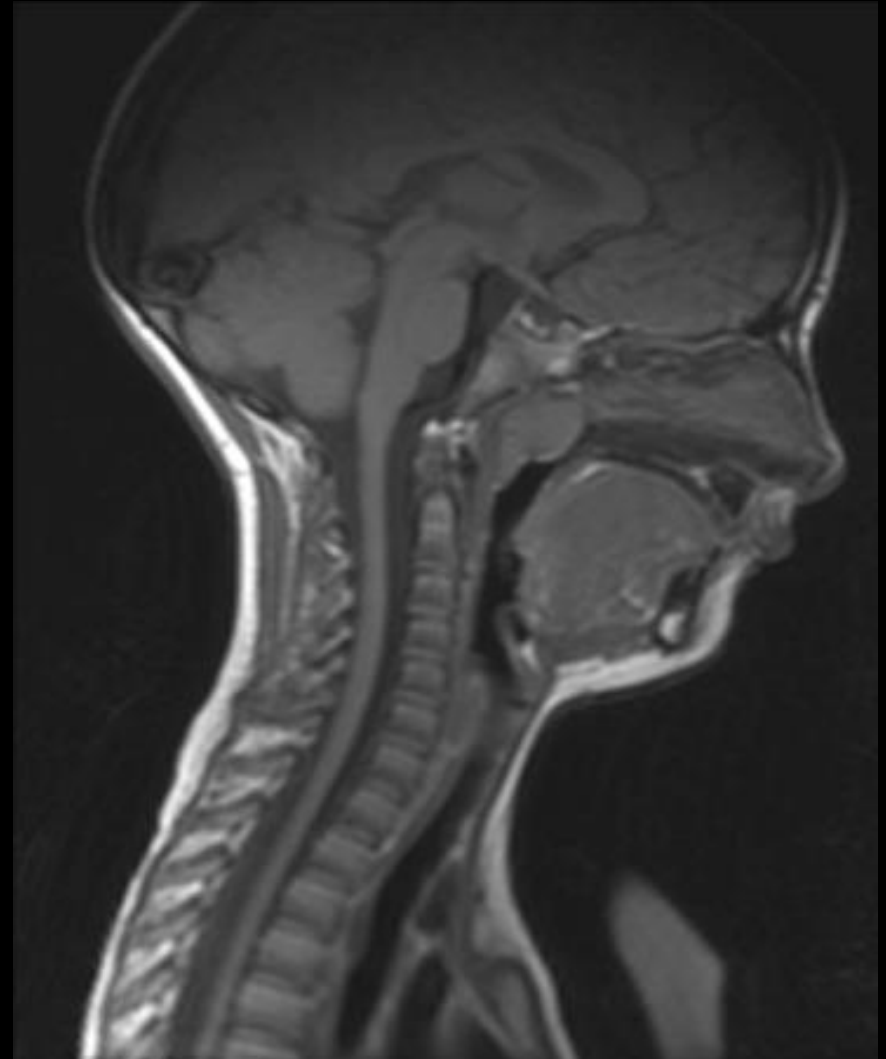
Lack of sweating



- **Central (A):**
 - Involves the first order neuron that starts in the hypothalamus and descends down the brainstem to the level between C8 and T2
- **Preganglionic (B):**
 - Involves the second order neuron that passes from the brainstem to the superior cervical ganglion in the neck
- **Postganglionic (C):**
 - Involves the third order neuron that ascends along the internal carotid artery to enter the cavernous sinus, where it joins the ophthalmic division of the trigeminal nerve



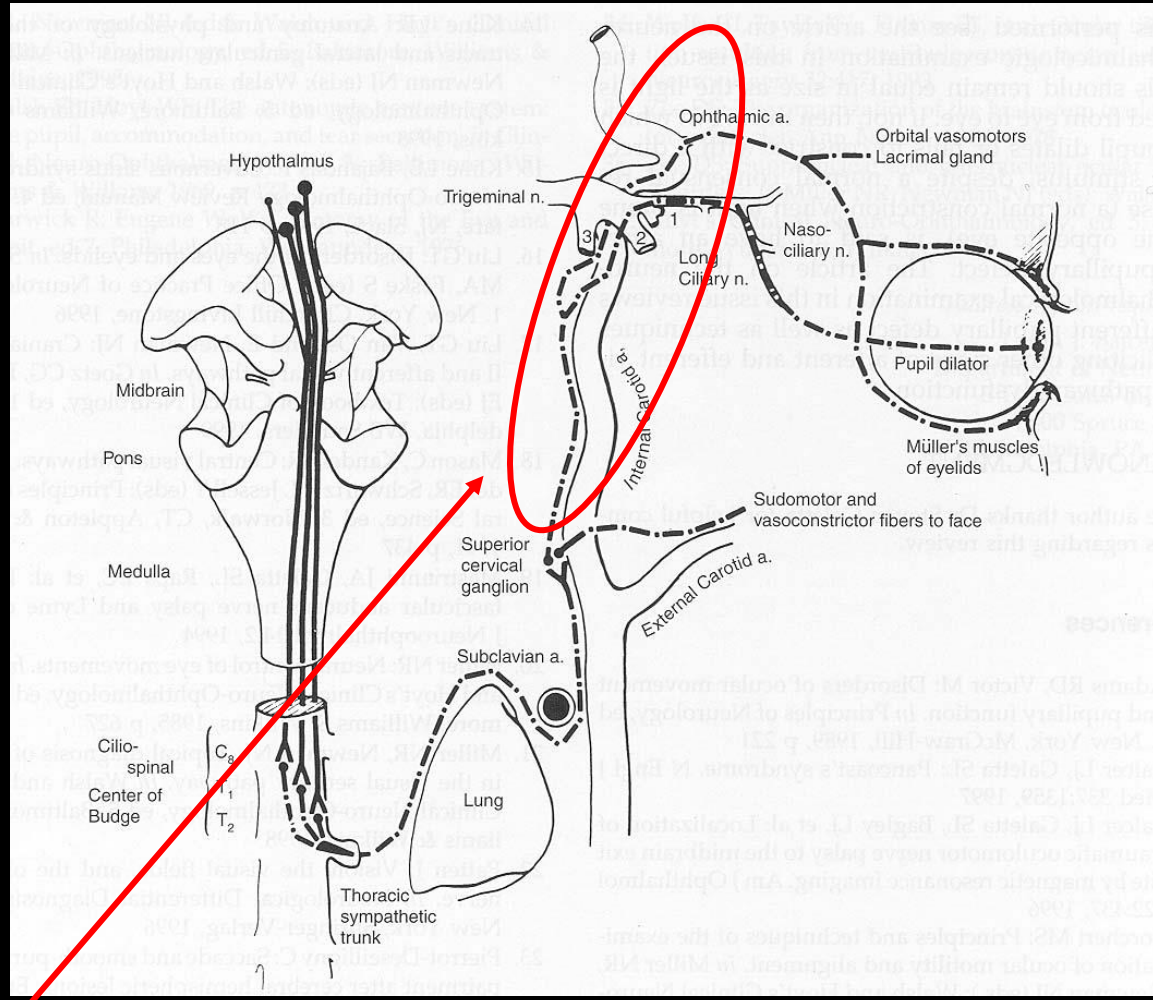
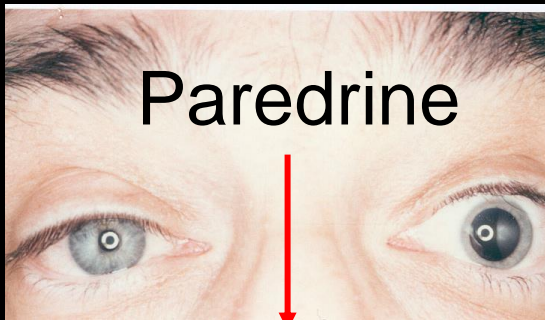
Horner Syndrome: Imaging of the Sympathetic Pathways



Etiology

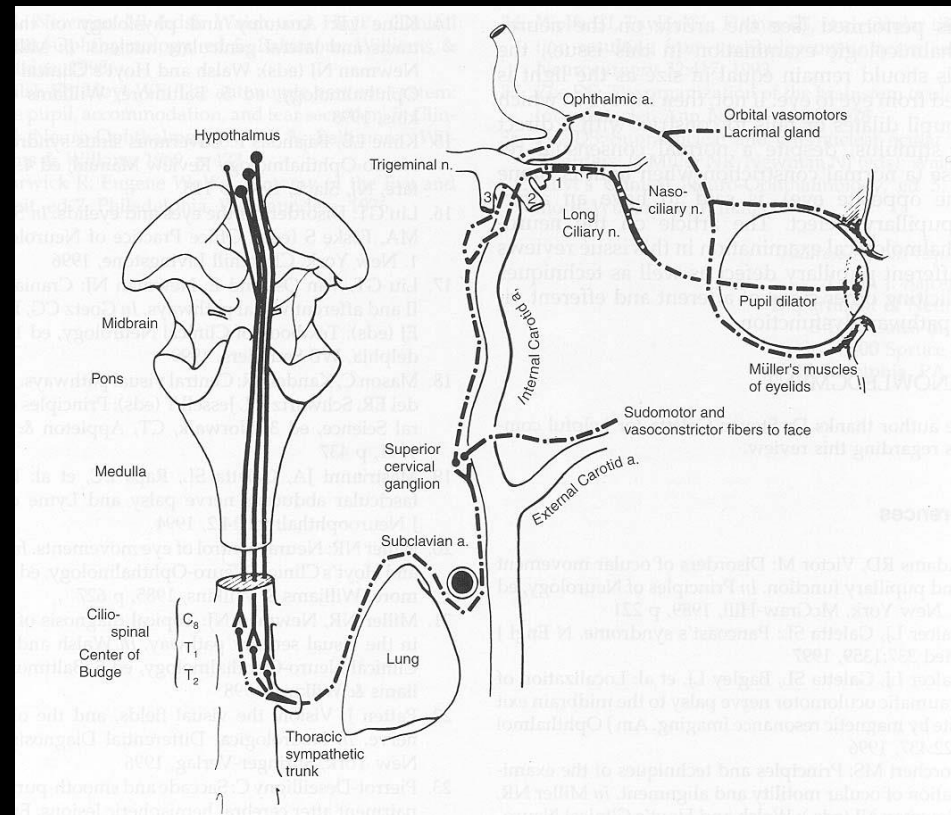
- Brainstem stroke or tumor or syrinx of the preganglionic neuron – In one study, 33% of patients with brainstem lesions demonstrated Horner syndrome
- Trauma to the brachial plexus
- Tumors (eg, Pancoast) or infection of the lung apex
- Lesion of the postganglionic neuron **Dissecting carotid aneurysm** – In one study, 44% of patients with internal extracranial carotid artery dissections had **painful Horner syndrome**, which remained isolated in half the cases
- Carotid artery ischemia
- Migraine
- Middle cranial fossa neoplasm
- Multiple sclerosis

Horner Syndrome Localization



Horner Syndrome Imaging

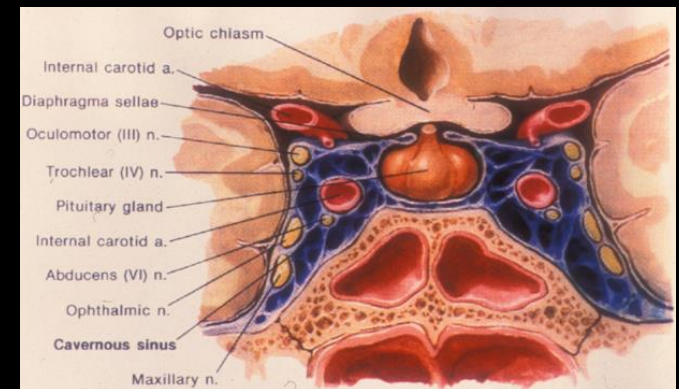
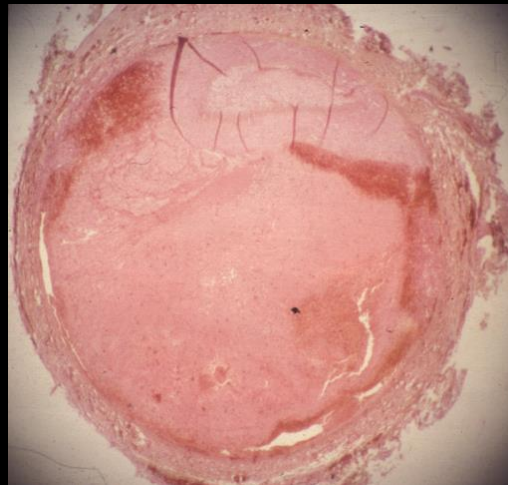
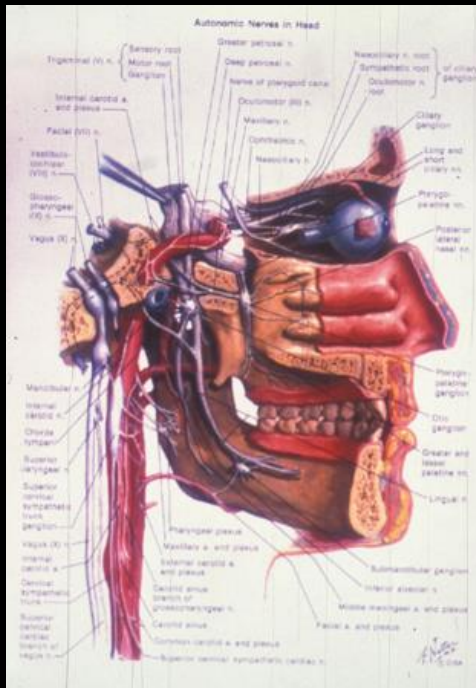
- Based on localization:
 - 3rd order
 - 1st or 2nd order
 - Don't know



Painful acute Horner syndrome

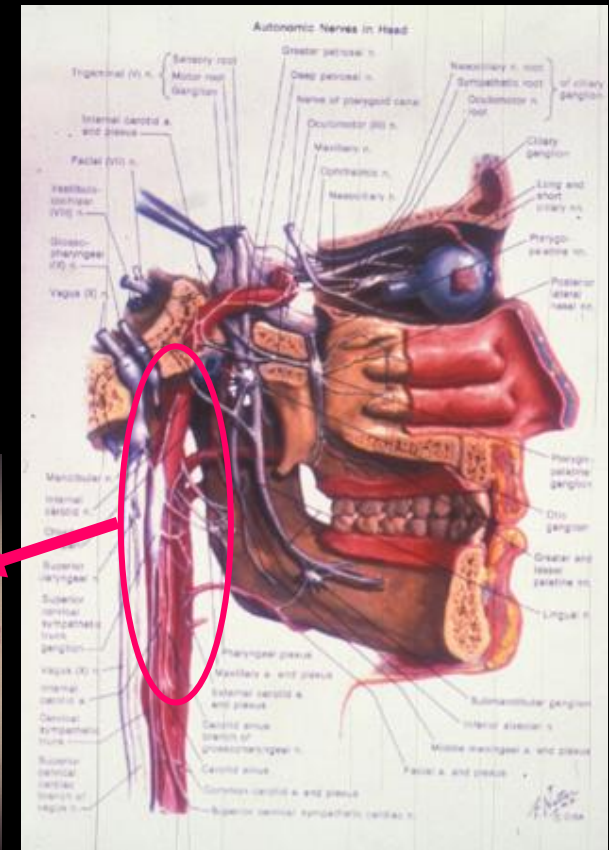
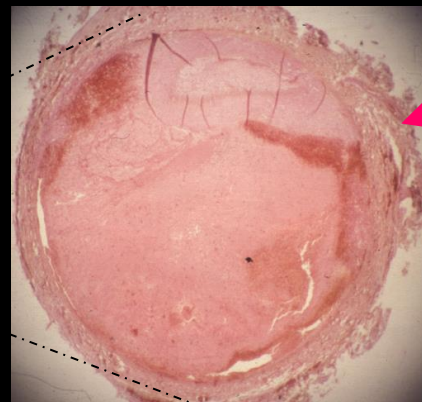
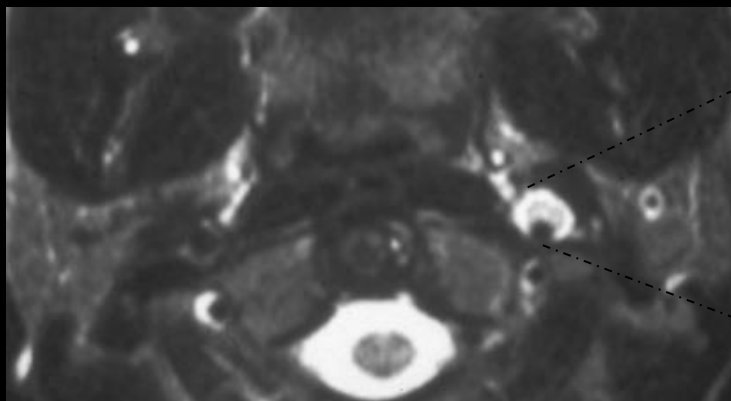
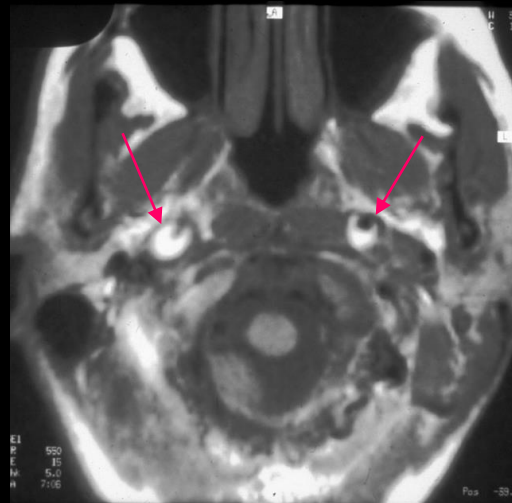
Third order

- Internal carotid artery dissection
- Cavernous sinus aneurysm



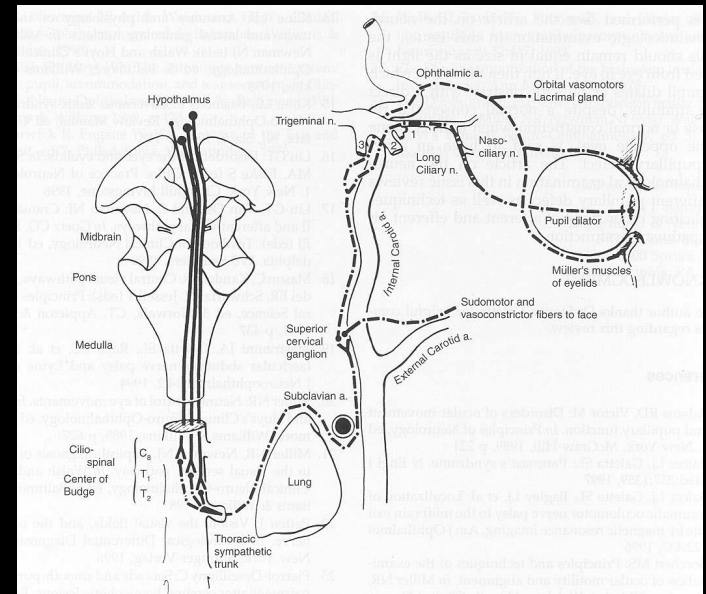
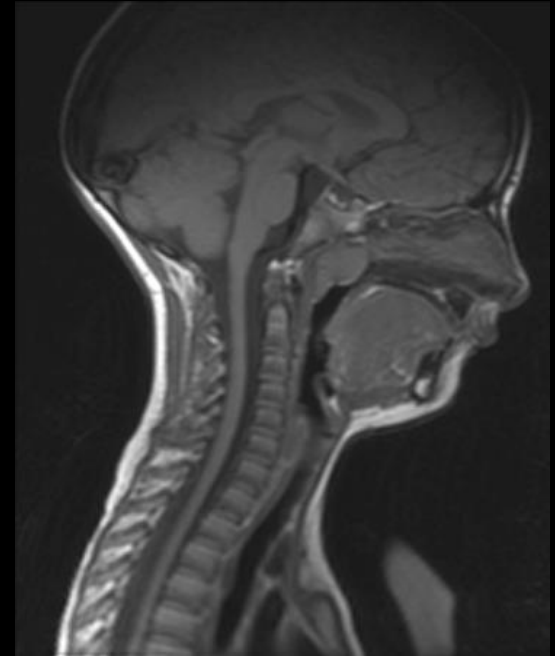
Painful acute Horner syndrome

Third order



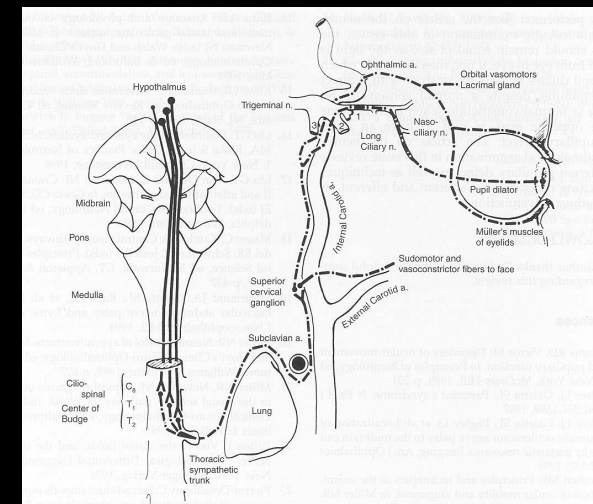
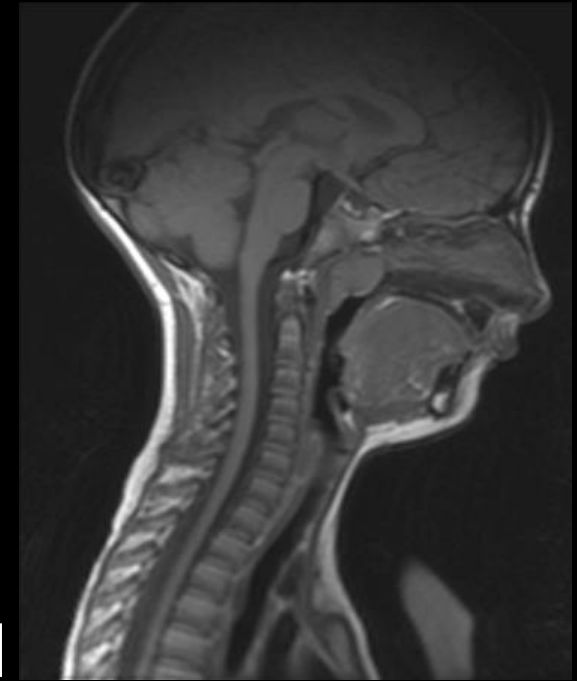
Horner syndrome

- 3rd order:
 - MRI brain and orbits with gadolinium
 - Down to the jaw
 - MRA head and neck
 - May need neck MRI



Horner syndrome

- 1st or 2nd order:
 - MRI brain with gadolinium
 - MRI cervical spine with gad
 - May need MRA aortic arch and neck
 - May need MRI neck and pulmonary apex
 - Chest X-Ray
 - **CTA of aortic arch and neck**



Horner syndrome

- You don't know where:
 - **MRI brain and orbits with gadolinium**
 - **MRA head and neck**
 - **MRI cervical spine with gad**
 - **May need MRA aortic arch and neck**
 - **May need MRI neck and pulmonary apex**
 - **Chest X-Ray**
 - **CTA of aortic arch and neck**

