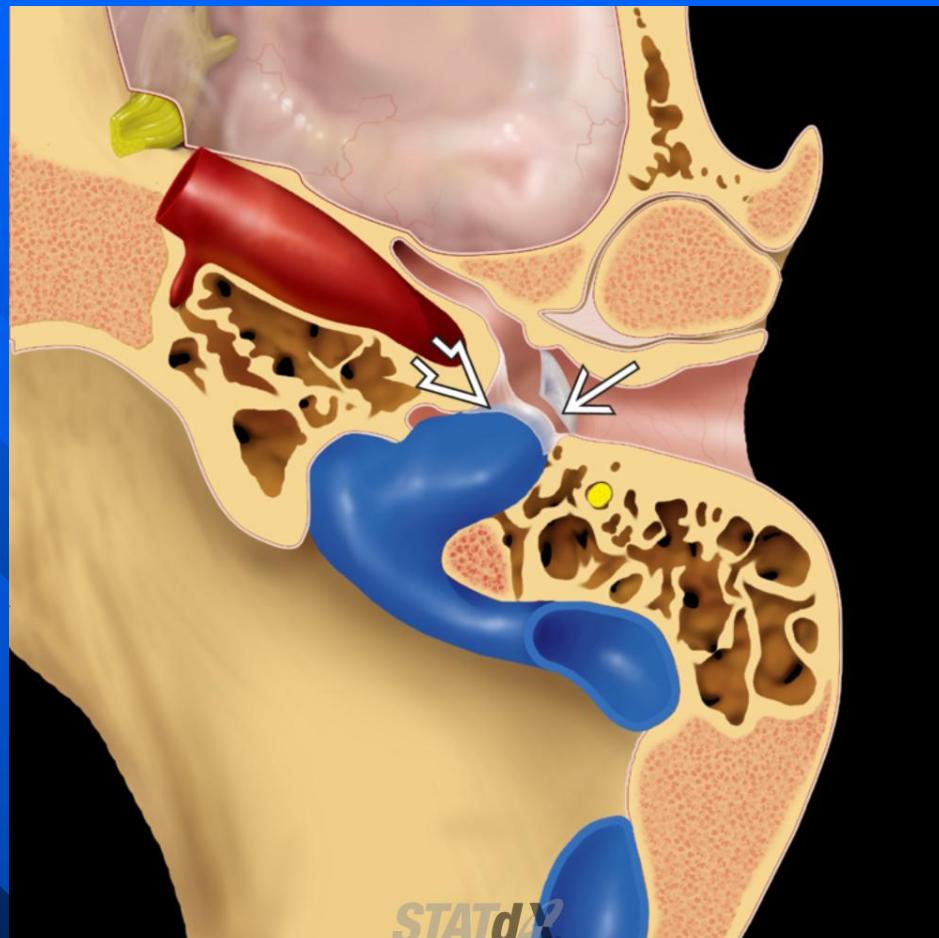


Dehiscent Jugular Bulb

- DJB has been reported as linked to many symptoms, though **causality is disputed**
 - Pulsatile tinnitus, hearing loss, Ménière disease
- Otoscopy: **Vascular blue "mass"** behind intact tympanic membrane may prompt imaging
- Otoscopic findings + bone CT findings make correct diagnosis
 - Corrected DJB diagnosis provides warning to surgeons when surgery contemplated for other indications
 - Helps avoid injury to JB

Axial graphic depicts a dehiscent jugular bulb projecting superolaterally into the middle ear through the dehiscent sigmoid plate (white open arrow). Typically, a blue-colored vascular "mass" is identified behind the posteroinferior quadrant of the intact tympanic membrane (white solid arrow).



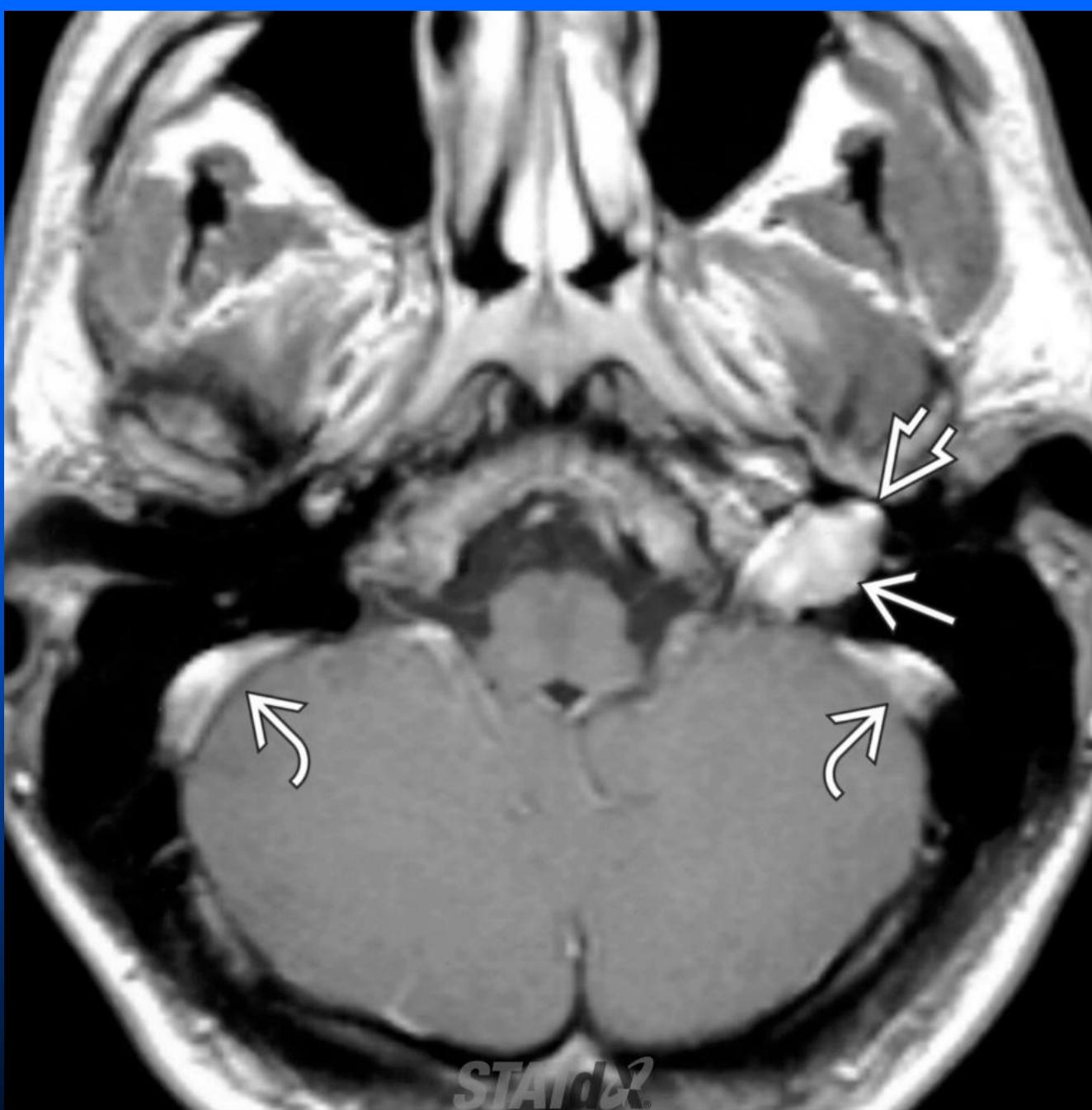
Dehiscent jugular bulb



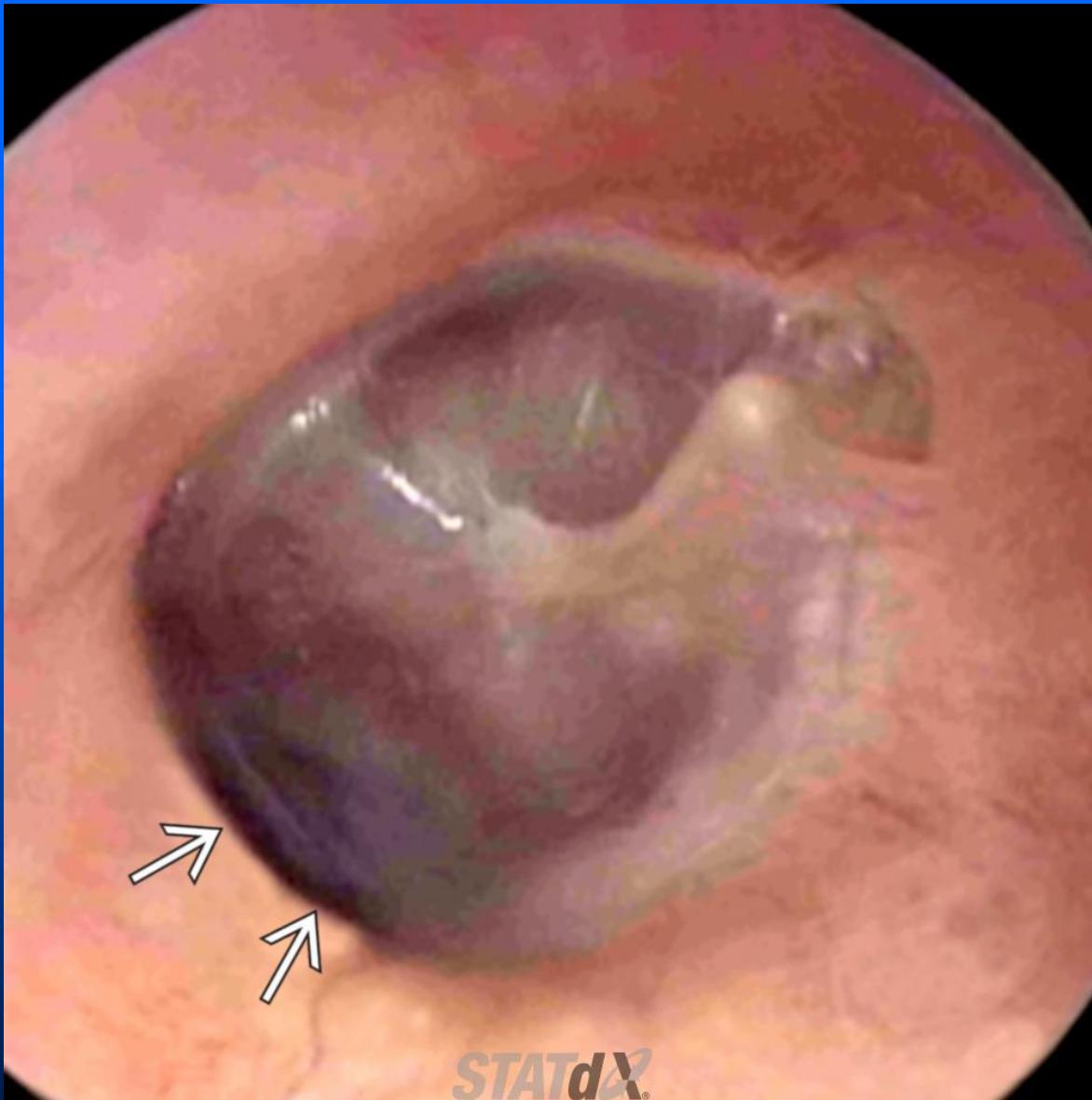
- Sigmoid plate between high riding bulb and middle ear is absent
- Causes pulsatile tinnitus



Coronal bone CT shows a laterally lobulated extension (white solid arrow) of the dehiscent jugular bulb (white open arrow) into the right middle ear. Dehiscent jugular bulb is the most common vascular variant of the temporal bone and is more frequent on the right.



Axial T1WI C+ MR shows enhancement of the prominent jugular bulb (white solid arrow) contiguous with the dehiscent component in the middle ear (white open arrow). Enhancement is identical to the sigmoid sinuses (white curved arrow).



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Clinical photograph shows an otoscopic view of the left tympanic membrane. Note the bluish vascular retrotympanic "mass" (white solid arrow) at the posterior inferior quadrant of the tympanic membrane.