

## Authors' Response

Sir:

We often regret that clinicians and forensic experts have limited interactions, as this collaboration would certainly benefit both fields. Therefore, we were pleased to have insight from clinical researchers to our paper (1).

In our case report (1), we mentioned that brain arteriovenous malformations (BAVMs) seem to affect <0.7% of the population. However, as pointed out by Mohr in his review paper (2), the prevalence of BAVMs is difficult to estimate, given the lack of a population subject to uniform brain imaging. As a matter of fact, as discussed by Dr Berman and Dr Young in their letter to the editor, it is probable that this prevalence is even lower. Nevertheless, BAVMs are possible cause of sudden and unexpected deaths that are of importance for the forensic pathologist.

## References

1. Racette S, Sauvageau A. Brain arteriovenous malformation and its implication in forensic pathology. *J Forensic Sci* 2007;52(1):189–91.
2. Mohr JP. Brain arteriovenous malformations: children and adults. *Stroke* 2005;36(10):2060–1.

Stéphanie Racette, M.Sc.; and Anny Sauvageau, M.D., M.Sc.  
Laboratoire de sciences judiciaires et de médecine légale  
Édifice Wilfrid-Derome  
1701, Parthenais Street  
12th floor  
Montreal  
QC H2K 3S7  
Canada