

Movement Disorders

Les troubles du mouvement



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Major Movement Disorders -

Les troubles du mouvement majeurs

To be covered in the next 30 minutes:

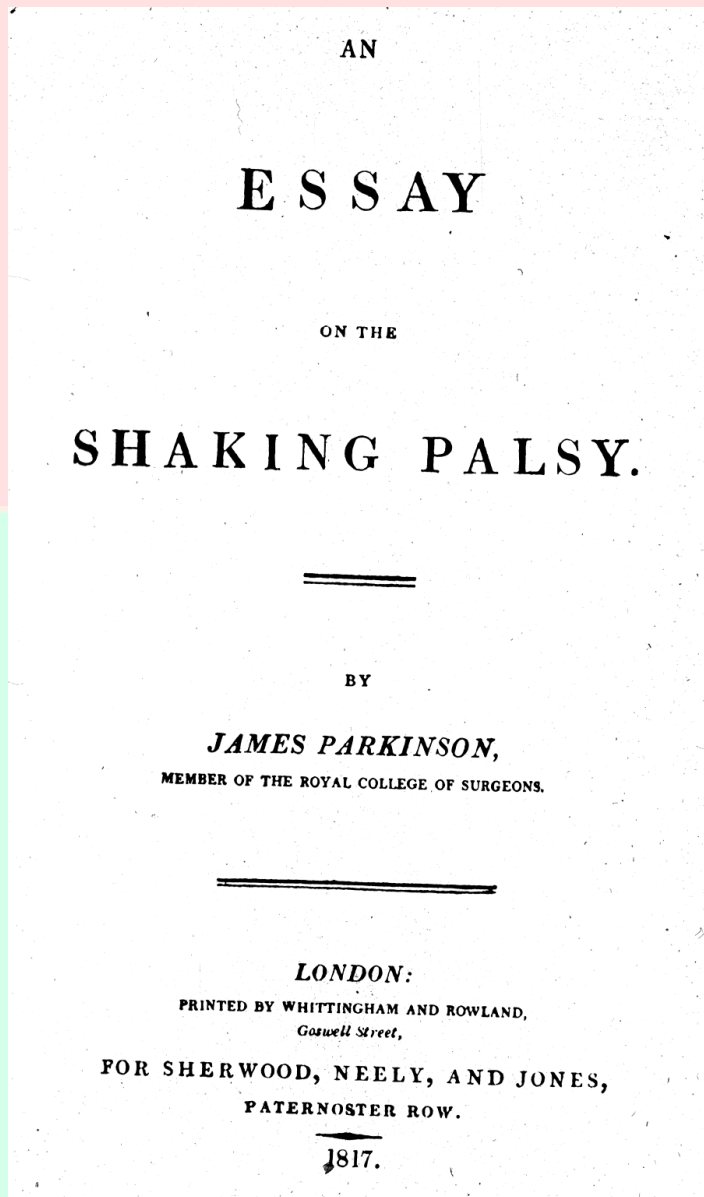
- ❑ Parkinson's disease – *la maladie de Parkinson*
- ❑ Other parkinsonian disorders – *d'autres maladies parkinsoniennes*
- ❑ Essential tremor – *le tremblement essentiel*
- ❑ Dystonia disorders – *les dystonies*
- ❑ Drug-induced disorders – *les dyskinésies d'origine médicamenteuse*

Parkinson's disease – *la maladie de Parkinson*

Outline:

1. The range of clinical manifestations
 - *La gamme de manifestations cliniques*
2. The diagnosis
 - *Le diagnostic*
3. Current treatment
 - *Le traitement actuel*

James Parkinson's monograph



Core clinical features
(i.e., the syndrome of
“parkinsonism”):

- Tremor
- Rigidity
- Akinesia
- Postural disturbances

Tremor

Rest tremor (characteristic)

- ❑ Occurs in repose
- ❑ 3-7 Hz (slow)
- ❑ **TIP:** Watch for rest tremor while walking, or during tasks of concentration (e.g., arithmetic, reciting months backward)

Action tremor (less common)

- ❑ Occurs with muscle activation
- ❑ 6-11 Hz (fast)

Rigidity

- Muscle tone: Increased passive resistance
 - A sign clinicians elicit, not a symptom
- Unlike spasticity, rigidity is uniform (1) in antagonists, (2) throughout a joint range, (3) regardless of speed
- **TIP:** Accentuated by contralateral activity
- “Cogwheeling”: correlated with tremor, not rigidity

Akinesia

- ❑ “Akinesia”: *from the Greek for “lack of movement”*
- ❑ Impairment of voluntary movement
- ❑ Typically causes most of the disability in Parkinson’s disease (PD)

Akinesia

3 components:

Bradykinesia (decreased *speed* of movement)

- e.g. Slow initiation and execution of all movement

Hypokinesia (decreased *amplitude* of movement)

- e.g. Micrographia, decreased arm swing, short stride

Oligokinesia (decreased *quantity* of movement)

- e.g. Reduced blink and facial expression

□ **TIP:** Tendency to progressive fatigue with repetition

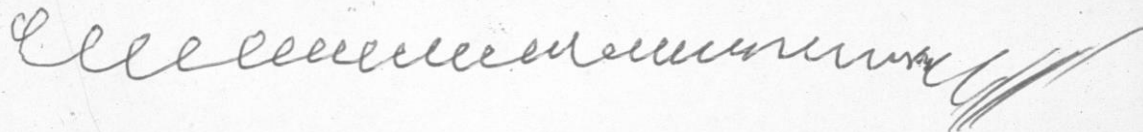
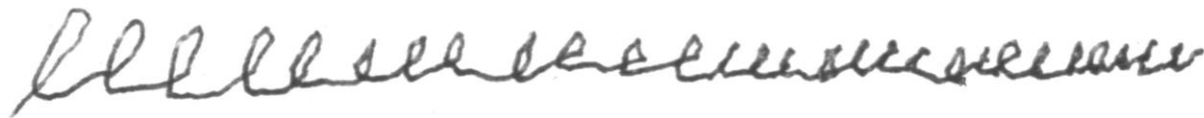
Micrographia

Drawing loops – *dessiner des boucles*

Right hand

Right-sided
parkinsonism

Left hand



Postural Disturbances

2 components:

- ❑ Flexion posture, “stooping”
 - Neck, elbows, waist, knees
- ❑ Disorder of equilibrium, falls
 - *Exam:* Test for retropulsion
 - ❑ Pull backward on shoulders
 - ❑ Normal: recover balance in 2 steps

Parkinson's disease - Range of clinical manifestations

la maladie de Parkinson - la gamme de manifestations cliniques

- Cardinal motor manifestations
 - Tremor, rigidity, akinesia, postural disturbances
- Non-motor manifestations (*les manifestations non-motrices*)
 - Cognitive (dementia, excess somnolence)
 - Autonomic (constipation, orthostatic hypotension/other cardiovascular instability, incontinence, sexual or sweat dysfunction/failure of temperature regulation)
 - Sensory (restless legs syndrome, loss of smell)
 - Miscellaneous (depression, REM-sleep behavior disorder)

“Premotor” Manifestations – *Les manifestations prémotrices*

- ❑ May precede motor onset by decades
- ❑ Strongest evidence established for:
 - Olfactory deficit
 - Constipation
 - REM-sleep behavior disorder
 - Excess daytime somnolence
 - Depression, anxiety

Savica et al. Arch Neurol 2010; 67: 798-801

Lang. Mov Disord 2011; 775-783

Typical Clinical Course of PD

- Starts in one limb
 - Dominant:non-dominant = 3:2
- Progresses slowly over months and years
 - Typically first to the other limb on the same side
 - Eventually becomes bilateral, but remains worse on the side first affected
- Tremor, rigidity and akinesia early; postural instability late (≥ 10 years)

Parkinson's disease - Diagnosis

la maladie de Parkinson - le diagnostic

Why do patients with PD go to doctors?

1. Involuntary movement

- Is it a rest tremor?
- Ask about and look for: Evidence of akinesia, rigidity

2. Trouble with voluntary movement

- Is it akinesia?
- Ask about and look for: Tremor, rigidity

Parkinson's disease - Diagnosis

la maladie de Parkinson - le diagnostic

- ❑ Clinical course: did it start unilaterally?
- ❑ Diagnosis can be supported by:
 - Non-motor features: REM-SBD, loss of smell
 - Imaging of dopaminergic nerve terminals
 - Response to medication
- ❑ Ultimately, we continue to diagnose PD by finding characteristic clinical motor features evolving in a characteristic way

Parkinson's disease – Current treatment

la maladie de Parkinson - le traitement actuel

- 
- ❑ Medications
 - ❑ Physical activity
 - ❑ Surgery

Parkinson's disease – Medications

la maladie de Parkinson – les médicaments

□ Medications

- 6 categories currently available

- General principles of medications for PD

- drugs treat only symptoms; the disease progresses
- all drugs are compatible with each other
- using small doses of multiple drugs usually produces fewer side effects than large doses of a single drug
- all side effects are reversible
- laboratory tests for organ surveillance not required (exception: tolcapone)

Currently Available Medications

Modestly effective

- ❑ Anticholinergic drugs
 - diphenhydramine, trihexyphenidyl, benztropine, biperiden, etc.
- ❑ Amantadine

Most effective

- ❑ Levodopa (plus carbidopa or benserazide)
- ❑ Dopamine agonists
 - bromocriptine, pergolide, pramipexole, ropinirole, rotigotine, cabergoline, apomorphine, pirobaidil, etc.

Levodopa boosters

- ❑ MAO (monoamine oxidase)-B inhibitors
 - selegiline, rasagiline, safinamide, etc.
- ❑ COMT (catechol-O-methyl transferase) inhibitors
 - tolcapone, entacapone

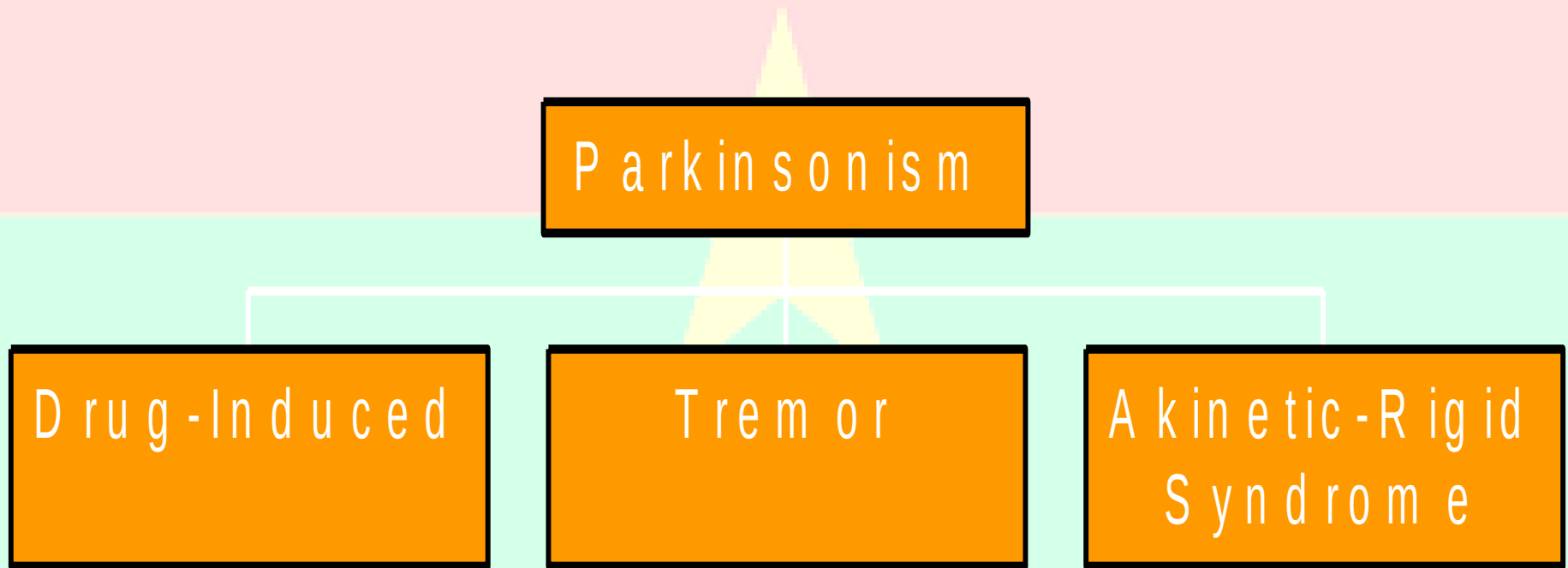
Physical activity for PD

- ❑ Numerous research studies over the last 15 years have established the value of physical activity
 - Aerobic exercise
 - Resistance exercise
 - Tai chi, yoga
 - Dance
 - Sports
- ❑ Every PD patient should be advised to get involved in regular physical activity of some kind

Surgery for PD

- ❑ Mainly for patients whose medications fail to control their symptoms consistently, or have intractable tremor
- ❑ Surgical options
 - Deep brain stimulation – *la stimulation cérébrale profonde*
 - Jejunal infusion of L-dopa – *infusion intestinale de la L-dopa*

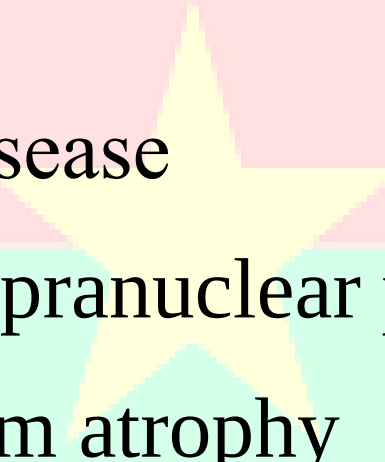
Simplified Differential Diagnosis



Akinetic-Rigid Syndromes

- ❑ Infectious and postinfectious
- ❑ Toxic, metabolic
- ❑ Familial
- ❑ Young-onset, e.g., Wilson's
- ❑ Diagnosable by imaging studies
- ❑ Miscellaneous
- ❑ Degenerative

Degenerative Diseases

- 
- ❑ Parkinson's disease
 - ❑ Progressive supranuclear palsy
 - ❑ Multiple system atrophy
 - ❑ Corticobasal degeneration

Progressive supranuclear palsy - *la paralysie supranucléaire progressive*

Practical Clinical Diagnosis

- ❑ older patient
- ❑ vertical ocular motor disorder (slow saccades, restricted range)
- ❑ onset with gait disorder and disequilibrium
- ❑ no tremor
- ❑ rigidity in neck but not in limbs, relatively normal performance of repetitive movements
- ❑ little or no response to levodopa

Multiple system atrophy – *l'atrophie multisystématisée*

Practical Clinical Diagnosis

- ❑ younger patient (usually < 60 years old)
- ❑ no tremor
- ❑ early and prominent autonomic difficulty
- ❑ relatively rapid progression of parkinsonism
- ❑ poor, unsustained response to levodopa
- ❑ may have ataxia greater than parkinsonism
- ❑ REM-SBD

Corticobasal degeneration – *la dégénérescence corticobasale*

Practical Clinical Diagnosis

- patient in 7th decade
- asymmetric presentation
- combination of
 - basal ganglia signs (rigidity, dystonia, akinesia)
 - cerebral cortical dysfunction (apraxia, cortical sensory loss, alien limb)
 - other common features: action and focal reflex myoclonus, nonfluent aphasia

Essential tremor – *le tremblement essentiel*

- ❑ If a patient has a tremor, think of essential tremor (ET)
- ❑ Causes an action tremor of the hands
 - with sustained posture (“postural tremor”)
 - with movement (“kinetic tremor”)
- ❑ More disabling than rest tremor
- ❑ Typically interferes with eating, drinking, writing
- ❑ Distribution: upper limbs, head (50%), voice (25%)
- ❑ Progression is very slow

Essential tremor – *le tremblement essentiel*

- Frequency: 6-11 Hz (fast)
- Patients are usually neurologically normal, apart from tremor
 - Tremor is the sole source of disability
- Two distinctive features:
 - Responds to a low dose of alcohol
 - Positive family history (~75%), consistent with autosomal dominant inheritance

Essential tremor – *le tremblement essentiel*

□ Examination – *l'examen*

- Hold arms outstretched forward at shoulder level –
«la manoeuvre du serment»
- Finger-to-nose testing - *l'épreuve «doigt-nez»*
- Optional: handwriting, drawing, drinking from a glass

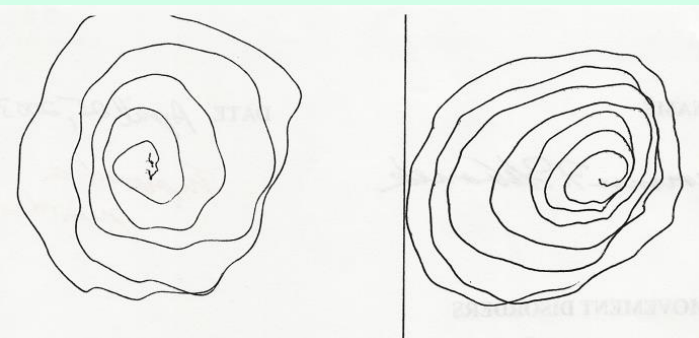
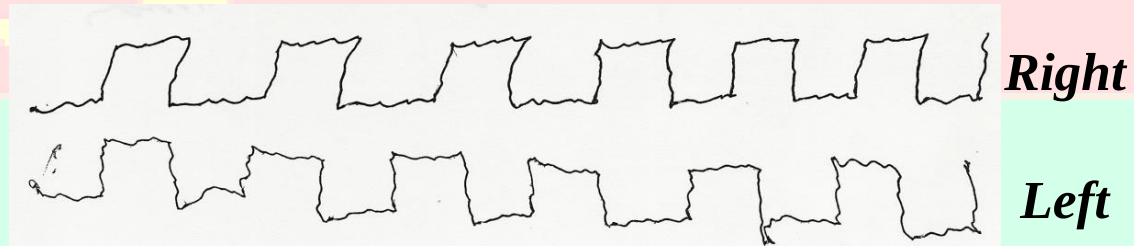
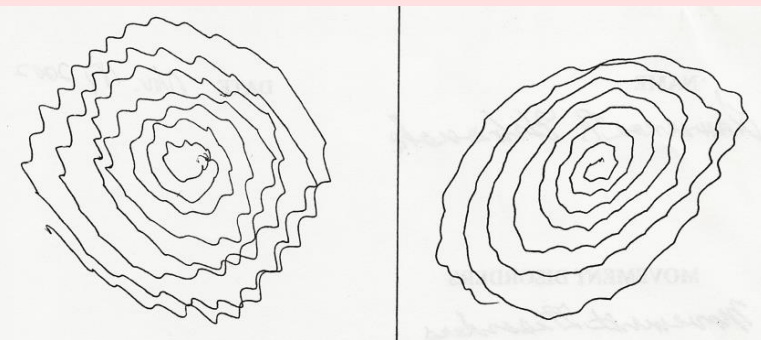
ET - Medical Treatment

- 2 main agents used:
 1. Primidone: start 25 mg qHS; ↑ by 25 mg as tolerated or needed
 - Side effects: drowsiness, dizziness
 2. Propranolol: start 10 mg t.i.d. or 60 mg of long-acting preparation q.d.; titrate upward as needed and tolerated

Essential Tremor – Response to Medication

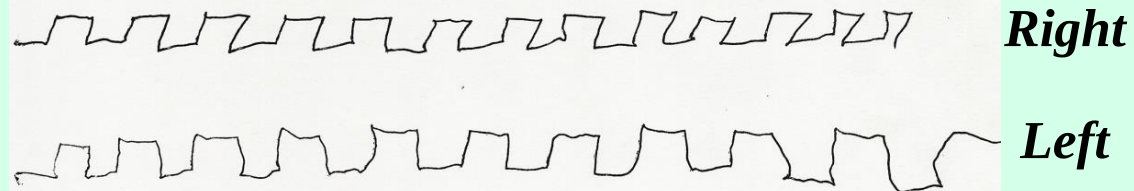
An 84-year-old man with a 4-year history of essential tremor

Prior to treatment



Left

Right



On primidone 500 mg qHS

Essential Tremor

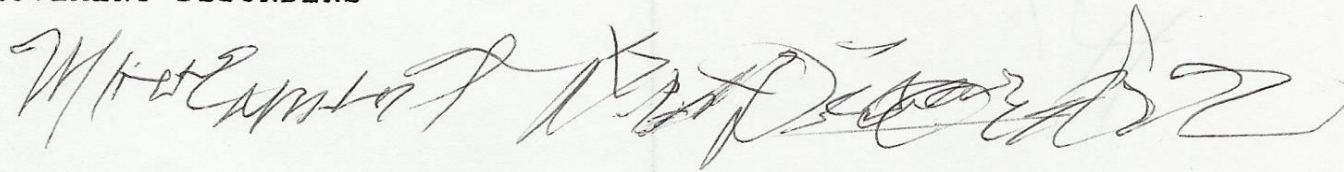
Medical treatment (others, less established)

1. Methazolamide
2. Gabapentin
3. Mirtazapine
4. Topiramate
5. Clonazepam

Essential Tremor – Response to Medication

A 79-year-old woman with a 40-year history of essential tremor

MOVEMENT DISORDERS

A handwritten sample of the words "Movement Disorders" in cursive. The letters are highly shaky and irregular, with many small, rapid oscillations (tremor) visible throughout the writing, particularly in the loops and descenders.

Prior to
treatment

MOVEMENT DISORDERS

A handwritten sample of the words "Movement Disorders" in cursive. The tremor is noticeably reduced compared to the first sample, with smoother letter formation and less pronounced oscillations.

On primidone
150 mg daily

MOVEMENT DISORDERS

A handwritten sample of the words "Movement Disorders" in cursive. The writing is very smooth and stable, with clear, well-defined letter shapes and minimal visible tremor, indicating a significant improvement in motor control.

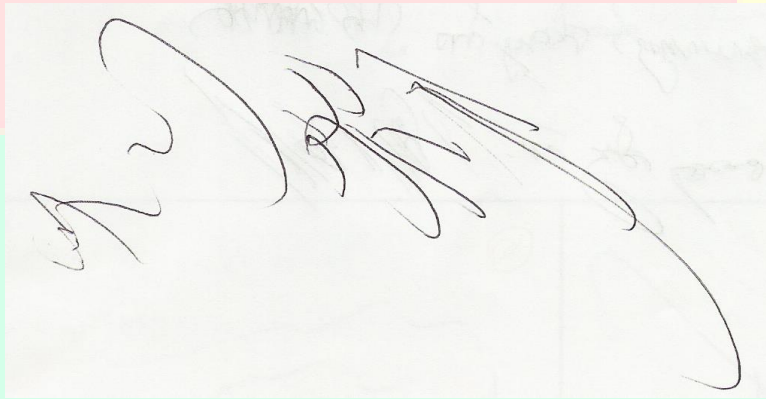
On primidone 250 mg,
propranolol 120 mg, and
methazolamide 225 mg
daily

Essential Tremor – Response to Medication

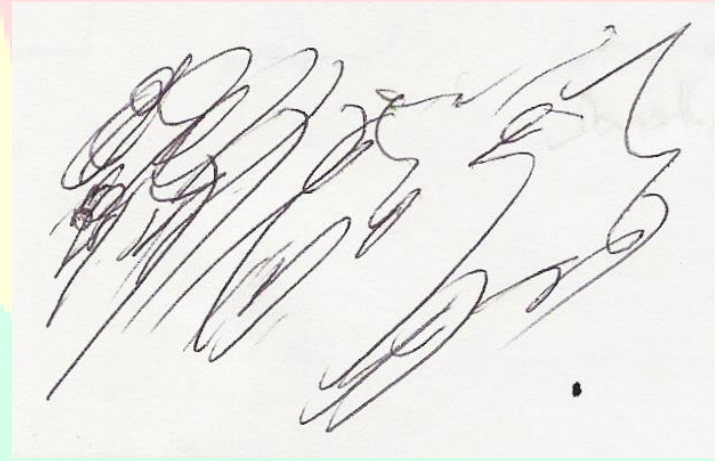
An 84-year-old man with a 56-year history of essential tremor

Prior to treatment

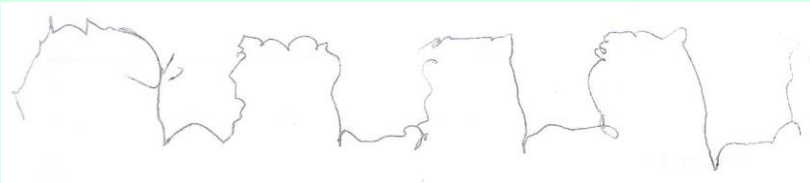
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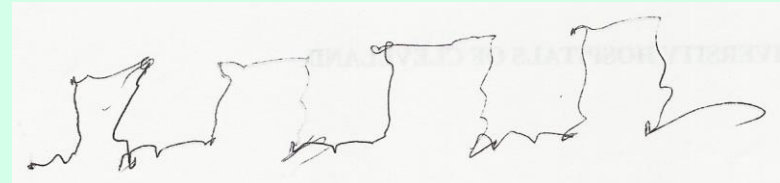
Right



Left



Right



On methazolamide 50 mg t.i.d.
and gabapentin 200 mg t.i.d.

Essential Tremor

Surgical Treatment – *le traitement chirurgical*

- ❑ Thalamotomy - *la thalamotomie*
- ❑ Deep brain stimulation of the thalamus - *la stimulation cérébrale profonde du noyau VIM du thalamus*
- ❑ Gamma knife therapy - *la thalamotomie par gamma knife*
- ❑ Focused ultrasound - *la thalamotomie par ultrasons focalisés*

Dystonia – Characteristic Features

- ❑ Continuous (tonic) or irregularly repetitive (clonic) muscle contractions, often resulting in sustained abnormal postures
- ❑ Two distinctive features:
 - Response to sensory “tricks” – *les gestes antagonistes*
 - Induced or ameliorated by specific actions (“task-specific” induction or suppression)

Dystonia - Classification

By etiology

- Primary: no identifiable pathology
- Secondary: identifiable cause

By distribution

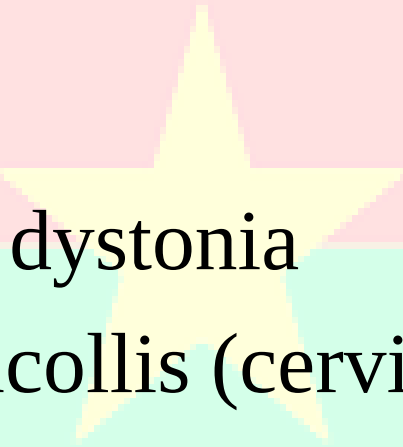
- Focal
- Segmental
- Multifocal
- Generalized
- Hemidystonia

Primary Dystonia

Focal dystonia:

- ❑ Almost always sporadic
- ❑ Onset in adulthood
- ❑ Involves cranial, cervical or upper limb muscles
- ❑ Remains focal, rarely generalizes

Common Focal Dystonias

- 
- ❑ Blepharospasm
 - ❑ Oromandibular dystonia
 - ❑ Spasmodic torticollis (cervical dystonia)
 - ❑ Laryngeal dystonia (spasmodic dysphonia)
 - ❑ Writer's cramp

Secondary Dystonia

Dystonia may be due to a wide variety of causes of brain injury:

- ❑ Metabolic disorders (Wilson's, Leigh's, etc.)
- ❑ Trauma – central or peripheral
- ❑ Stroke
- ❑ Cerebral palsy
- ❑ Drugs
- ❑ Degenerative diseases (Parkinson's, CBGD, Hallevorden-Spatz, etc.)
- ❑ Psychogenic

Dystonia - Treatment

- Medications
 - Trial of levodopa in children
- Botulinum toxin injections
 - *les injections de toxine botulique*
- Surgery

Botulinum toxin - *la toxine botulique*

- ❑ “Chemodenervation” of muscle : Botulinum toxin prevents release of acetylcholine at neuromuscular junction
- ❑ Onset: within days, up to one week
- ❑ Duration: average 3 months
- ❑ Side effects: most commonly weakness in or near the region injected

Drug-Induced Disorders -Antidopaminergic Drugs

2 major drug categories involved:

☐ Antipsychotic drugs

- Drugs used to treat hallucinations/delusions, or for behavioral modification (a.k.a. “neuroleptics”)
- Haloperidol, risperidone, olanzapine, etc.
- Typical antipsychotics cause more problems than atypical antipsychotics

☐ Antinauseant drugs

- Drugs used as primary antiemetics, or as adjuncts for chemotherapy
- Metoclopramide, prochlorperazine, etc.

Drug-Induced Disorders -Antidopaminergic Drugs

Neurologic Complications:

- Acute dystonic reaction
- Akathisia
- Parkinsonism
- Tardive dyskinesia and other tardive syndromes
- Neuroleptic malignant syndrome

Drug-Induced Disorders -Antidopaminergic Drugs

Acute Dystonic Reaction:

□ Onset

- Immediate (often after first dose) up to 72 hours

□ Manifestations

- Severe dystonia of face and/or neck muscles
- *Oculogyric crisis*: forced gaze deviation
- Importance: severe discomfort can be alleviated promptly

□ Treatment

- Withdraw the offending agent; resolves within days
- I.V. or I.M. antihistamine (e.g. diphenhydramine 25 mg)
 - relief within 15 minutes
 - 72-hour prescription for pills to prevent recurrence

Drug-Induced Disorders -Antidopaminergic Drugs

Akathisia:

- ❑ Onset
 - Days to weeks after first dose
- ❑ Manifestations
 - Severe restlessness, agitation, intense discomfort
 - Unable to sit still, pacing, rubbing, repetitive behaviors
 - Importance: most common cause of neuroleptic noncompliance
- ❑ Treatment
 - Withdraw the offending agent; resolves within weeks
 - If needed, symptomatic Rx with propranolol, lorazepam

Drug-Induced Disorders – Antidopaminergic Drugs

Parkinsonism:

□ Onset

- Weeks to months after first dose

□ Manifestations

- Similar to Parkinson's disease
- Less tremor, more symmetric
- Importance: can be misdiagnosed and treated as Parkinson's

□ Treatment

- Withdraw the offending agent; resolves in up to 18 months
- If needed, symptomatic Rx with amantadine, anticholinergics

Drug-Induced Disorders -Antidopaminergic Drugs

Tardive Dyskinesia:

□ Onset

- Usually a year or more after first dose (*“tardive” = late*)

□ Manifestations

- Orolingual dyskinesias: chewing, licking, lip-smacking movements; head, trunk and limbs variably affected
- Respiratory dyskinesias, pelvic thrusting: unusual but characteristic
- Importance: may be irreversible

□ Treatment

- Withdraw offending agent (may worsen temporarily)
- 50% chance of spontaneous remission

Tardive Dyskinesia

Other points:

- ❑ Traditional neuroleptics more liable than atypical neuroleptics to cause it
- ❑ Occurs in 20% of patients on chronic therapy
- ❑ Older women form the most vulnerable population

Other Tardive Syndromes

□ Tardive dystonia

- Consists mainly of cranial and cervical dystonia
- Tends to occur in younger males
- May not require as prolonged exposure; some cases occur within weeks of initiation of drug
- Very low chance of spontaneous remission

Other Tardive Syndromes

- ❑ Tardive akathisia,
- ❑ Tardive myoclonus, and
- ❑ Tardive tremor have also been described;
- ❑ Recognized by “tardive” pharmacologic features:
 1. Onset after prolonged exposure
 2. Worsening after withdrawal of causative medication
 3. Suppression of symptoms by increased dose

Tardive Dyskinesia/Dystonia

Management:

- ❑ Prevention: avoid offending agents
- ❑ Use/switch to atypical antipsychotics
 - Best is clozapine
- ❑ Symptomatic therapy with presynaptic dopamine antagonists (reserpine, tetrabenazine)
- ❑ For dystonia: anticholinergics, botulinum toxin
- ❑ Alternatives: propranolol, clonidine, benzodiazepines

Drug-Induced Disorders -Antidopaminergic Drugs

Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome:

□ Onset

- Any time during treatment, especially after ↑ dose

□ Manifestations

- Extreme rigidity, elevated CPK
- Fever, dysautonomia
- Impaired mental status
- Importance: life-threatening

□ Treatment

- Withdraw offending agent
- For rigidity: dopamine agonist, dantrolene

Final Words

- ❑ This is just a sample of the most important and treatable movement disorders
 - We did not even touch on chorea, tics, myoclonus, ballism, or athetosis
- ❑ Most movement disorders do not require any technology for diagnosis
- ❑ Using your ears and eyes (and occasionally your hands, and a pen and paper), you can be an excellent movement disorders neurologist