Serpentine tongue

A lingual dyskinesia

A 69-year-old man presented with parkinsonism (asymmetric pill-rolling tremor, bradykinesia, and rigidity) and a distinctive serpentine tongue dyskinesia (video). The movement was constantly present at rest, stopping only when speaking, swallowing, or sleeping. There had been no known exposure to neuroleptic medication. The lingual dyskinesia was noted before levodopa was introduced as a treatment for presumed Parkinson disease. However, beneficial response to levodopa was poor and led to worsening of the dyskinesia. The patient subsequently developed fecal and urinary incontinence as well as symptomatic orthostatic hypotension.

Multiple system atrophy is most likely, with an associated orofacial dyskinesia exaggerated by levodopa.¹

S.H.C. Sheehy, MRCP, T. Lawrence, MRCS, and A.W. Thevathasan, FRACP, Oxford, UK

Disclosure: The authors report no disclosures.

Address correspondence and reprint requests to Dr. A.W. Thevathasan, Department of Clinical Neurology, John Radcliffe Hospital, Headley Way, Oxford, OX3 9DU, UK; w_thevathasan@hotmail.com.

**Supplemental data at
www.neurology.org**

1. Boesch SM, Wenning GK, Ransmayr G, Poewe W. Dystonia in multiple system atrophy. *J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry* 2002;72:300–303.

Neurology®

Serpentine tongue: A lingual dyskinesia

S.H.C. Sheehy, T. Lawrence and A. W. Thevathasan

Neurology 2008;70:e87

DOI 10.1212/01.wnl.0000312572.79235.d7

This information is current as of May 19, 2008

Updated Information & Services

including high resolution figures, can be found at:
<http://n.neurology.org/content/70/21/e87.full>

Supplementary Material

Supplementary material can be found at:
<http://n.neurology.org/content/suppl/2008/05/16/70.21.e87.DC1>

References

This article cites 1 articles, 1 of which you can access for free at:
<http://n.neurology.org/content/70/21/e87.full#ref-list-1>

Subspecialty Collections

This article, along with others on similar topics, appears in the following collection(s):
All Movement Disorders
http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/all_movement_disorders
Clinical neurology examination
http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/clinical_neurology_examination
Multiple system atrophy
http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/multiple_system_atrophy
Parkinson's disease/Parkinsonism
http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/parkinsons_disease_parkinsonism

Permissions & Licensing

Information about reproducing this article in parts (figures, tables) or in its entirety can be found online at:
http://www.neurology.org/about/about_the_journal#permissions

Reprints

Information about ordering reprints can be found online:
<http://n.neurology.org/subscribers/advertise>

Neurology® is the official journal of the American Academy of Neurology. Published continuously since 1951, it is now a weekly with 48 issues per year. Copyright . All rights reserved. Print ISSN: 0028-3878. Online ISSN: 1526-632X.