Levator palpebrae myositis

Figure 1 Partial right ptosis

Figure 2 Coronal fat-suppressed gadolinium-enhanced MR scan of orbits showing discrete enhancement of the right levator palpebrae muscle (arrow)

A 45-year-old surgeon presented with a 2-day history of right eye pain and ptosis. Examination showed isolated partial right ptosis (figure 1). MR scan showed discrete enhancement of the right levator palpebrae (figure 2). The pain and ptosis resolved spontaneously over the following week.

Orbital myositis is one of the idiopathic orbital inflammatory syndromes. It presents very rarely as isolated ptosis due to inflammation of the levator palpebrae.¹ Fat-suppressed, enhanced MR of orbits is the imaging modality of choice. Corticosteroid therapy is usually effective but was not required in our patient nor in a previously reported patient with levator myositis.¹

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