Teaching Video NeuroImages:

Painful legs, moving toes associated with partial transverse myelitis

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Figure MRI of the cervical spinal cord

Hyperintense intramedullary signal can be seen on level C4 on T2-weighted imaging extending over less than 1 vertebral level (A, sagittal sequence; B, axial sequence). There was no gadolinium enhancement.

A 27-year-old woman presented with bilateral (left predominant), ascending painful limb and trunk numbness associated with weakness, rapidly progressive over 1 week. Clinical examination confirmed left predominant weakness and pain and temperature (but no proprioceptive) deficit, associated with involuntary movements of the left toes (video on the *Neurology*[®] Web site at www.neurology.org), compatible with the painful limbs/moving toes syndrome. Spinal MRI revealed a T2 hyperintense cervical (level C4) medullary lesion (figure). Lumbar puncture showed immunoglobulin synthesis without leukocytes. Brain MRI was normal. A diagnosis of acute inflammatory partial transverse myelitis was made. Movements disappeared after corticosteroid treatment. Central involvement, in contrast to peripheral nerve, is rare in this syndrome.^{1,2} The pathophysiology is unclear.

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