

Deliberate gait scissoring to overcome freezing of gait in Parkinson disease

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A 70-year-old man with Parkinson disease (PD) presented with gait scissoring, which he used purposely to overcome freezing of gait (video). This is important for 3 reasons. First, gait scissoring is traditionally equated with a functional disorder, but can apparently also be seen in PD.¹ Second, although balance impairments are common in PD, gait scissoring remains possible because patients have no mediolateral instabilities.² Third, adopting a different walking pattern is a common strategy to reduce freezing (several other walking patterns have been described), presumably involving use of alternative motor programs that are less dependent on automatized gait generation by the basal ganglia.¹

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Author contributions

J.N. drafted the manuscript. B.B. collected video data and drafted the manuscript.

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Disclosure

The authors report no disclosures relevant to the manuscript. Go to Neurology.org/N for full disclosures.

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