Oculopalatal tremor after pontine hemorrhage

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A 35-year-old man presented with oscillopsia and imbalance that developed 2 weeks after pontine hemorrhage. He had right one-and-a-half syndrome and oculopalatal tremor (OPT) (video available at www.neurology.org). The pendular nystagmus had torsional, vertical, and vergence components. The palatal tremor was symmetric. He also showed uvular deviation to the left, hypesthesia in the left face, arm, and leg, and limb ataxia in the right side. Brain MRI revealed hypertrophic degeneration of right inferior olivary nucleus (figure).

OPT is a delayed complication of damage to the dentato-rubro-olivary pathway (Guillain-Mollaret triangle) and subsequent hypertrophic olivary degeneration. Vertical pendular oscillations are typical of OPT, but the nystagmus may be both vertical and torsional. The accompanying one-and-a-half syndrome suggests additional involvement of the medial longitudinal fasciculus and paramedian pontine reticular formation by the hemorrhage.

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