Teaching NeuroImage:
Oculomasticatory myorhythmia
Pathognomonic phenomenology of Whipple disease

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A 41-year-old patient developed diplopia, imbalance, and weight loss. Examination showed pendular vergence oscillations of the eyes and synchronous contractions of the masticatory but not palatal muscles, i.e., oculomasticatory myorhythmia (OMM; figure). There was complete supranuclear vertical and, to a lesser extent, horizontal gaze palsy. The remainder of the examination was unremarkable. Brain MRI was normal. OMM is pathognomonic of Whipple disease.\(^1\) In its presence, neither jejunal biopsy nor blood or CSF PCR of \textit{Tropheryma whippelii} is necessary for the initiation of trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole.\(^2\) This patient became symptom free after 6 months of treatment. Video footage of the typical presentation should assist clinicians in recognizing this highly treatable neurologic disorder.

REFERENCES

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