

Teaching Video *NeuroImage*: The “Fonzarelli” sign

Focal thumb dystonia as an early manifestation of Parkinson disease



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A 77-year-old man presented with a 1-year history of upper limb rest tremor, rigidity, and bradykinesia. He reported focal dystonia affecting the right thumb over the preceding 7 years, resulting in a constant “thumbs up” gesture reminiscent of the fictional television character Arthur Fonzarelli.¹ Subsequent levodopa therapy reduced his bradykinesia and rigidity, but did not ameliorate the dystonia (see the video).

While foot dystonia is a common feature in late Parkinson disease (PD), dystonia may precede the development of PD by several years.² Writer’s cramp has been described as an early manifestation,³ with

extension of the great toe also noted (the striatal foot).⁴

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Supplemental data at
www.neurology.org

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