Teaching Video *NeuroImages*: Candy sign

The clue to the diagnosis of neurosyphilis

João Pedro Marto, MD,
MSc
Cláudia Borbinha, MD,
MSc
Tânia Lampreia, MD
Luísa Alves, MD
Miguel Viana-Baptista,
MD, PhD

Correspondence to
Dr. Marto:
joao.pedro.scabra.marto@gmail.com

A 45-year-old man presented with rapid progressive cognitive decline and behavioral symptoms. Neurologic examination revealed global cognitive impairment and episodic, nonrhythmic, brief contractions of the left orofacial muscles (video at Neurology.org). Serologic tests for syphilis were positive without HIV coinfection. CSF analysis revealed cell count 15/ μ L (mononuclear), hyperproteinorrachia (100 mg/dL), normal glycorrhachia, intrathecal immunoglobulin G synthesis (index-3.09), oligoclonal bands (type 2), and venereal disease research laboratory titer of 1/4. MRI revealed bilateral nonspecific white matter changes. Although rare and seldom documented, this dyskinesia, coined candy sign, is considered pathognomonic of neurosyphilis.¹ Improvement with penicillin was observed, but response to treatment seems to be variable.²

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

João Pedro Marto, Cláudia Borbinha, Tânia Lampreia: drafting the manuscript. Luísa Alves, Miguel Viana-Baptista: critical revision. All authors approved the final version.

STUDY FUNDING

No targeted funding reported.

DISCLOSURE

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

REFERENCES

1. Martinelli P, Rizzo G, Scaglione C, Capellari S. Neurosyphilis orofacial dyskinesia: the candy sign. *Mov Disord* 2013;28:246–247.
2. Shah BB, Lang AE. Acquired neurosyphilis presenting as movement disorders. *Mov Disord* 2013;27:690–695.

Supplemental data
at Neurology.org

Download teaching slides:
Neurology.org

From the Department of Neurology (J.P.M., C.B., L.A., M.V.-B.), Hospital Egas Moniz, Centro Hospitalar Lisboa Ocidental, Lisboa; Department of Neurology (T.L.), Hospital Beatriz Ângelo, Loures; and CEDOC (L.A., M.V.-B.), Nova Medical School, Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal.

Neurology®

Teaching Video *NeuroImages*: Candy sign: The clue to the diagnosis of neurosyphilis

João Pedro Marto, Cláudia Borbinha, Tânia Lampreia, et al.

Neurology 2017;88:e35

DOI 10.1212/WNL.0000000000003544

This information is current as of January 23, 2017

Updated Information & Services	including high resolution figures, can be found at: http://n.neurology.org/content/88/4/e35.full
Supplementary Material	Supplementary material can be found at: http://n.neurology.org/content/suppl/2017/01/23/WNL.0000000000003544.DC1 http://n.neurology.org/content/suppl/2017/01/23/WNL.0000000000003544.DC2
References	This article cites 2 articles, 0 of which you can access for free at: http://n.neurology.org/content/88/4/e35.full#ref-list-1
Subspecialty Collections	This article, along with others on similar topics, appears in the following collection(s): Bacterial infections http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/bacterial_infections
Permissions & Licensing	Information about reproducing this article in parts (figures, tables) or in its entirety can be found online at: http://www.neurology.org/about/about_the_journal#permissions
Reprints	Information about ordering reprints can be found online: http://n.neurology.org/subscribers/advertise

Neurology® is the official journal of the American Academy of Neurology. Published continuously since 1951, it is now a weekly with 48 issues per year. Copyright © 2017 American Academy of Neurology. All rights reserved. Print ISSN: 0028-3878. Online ISSN: 1526-632X.