Head flutter

Figure Eye and head oscillations

Simultaneous horizontal eye and head movement recording shows bursts of horizontal saccadic oscillations without an intersaccadic interval (ocular flutter [OF]) (A; top segment) accompanied by almost identical head oscillations (head flutter [HF]) (A; bottom segment). A detailed view shows that HF occurs around 100 milliseconds after OF initiation (B).

A previously healthy 30-year-old man presented with oscillopsia, involuntary head movements, and imbalance. His examination showed intermittent ocular flutter (OF), bursts of back-to-back horizontal head movements time-locked with OF (head flutter) (figure; video at Neurology.org), and generalized ataxia. Head MRI, paraneoplastic antibody testing, CSF analysis, toxicology and serology panel, and CT of chest/abdomen/pelvis were unrevealing. The patient fully recovered after 6 months with monthly IV immunoglobulin.

Head flutter has not been reported previously. We postulate that spreading of abnormal firing of pontine saccadic burst neurons to the adjacent gigantocellular head movement region may be responsible for head flutter.^{1,2}

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**Supplemental data
at Neurology.org**

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