Mystery Case: Superior oblique myokymia

An uncommon cause of intermittent diplopia

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Survey and results

[NPub.org/MC9009](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9009/)

A 31-year-old man presented with intermittent vertical diplopia, lasting for seconds to hours. He described a sensation of movement of his right eye, comparable to that of involuntary eyelid contractions. Fatigue induced the symptoms. Self-recorded videos (videos 1 and 2, links.lww.com/WNL/A195 and links.lww.com/WNL/A196; video legends, links.lww.com/WNL/A269) showed involuntary paroxysmal, intorsional movements of the right eye, consistent with superior oblique myokymia.^{1,2} This condition can be caused by trochlear neuropathy, for example due to microvascular compression, tumor in the tectal region, or trauma.^{1,2} Brain MRI did not reveal any abnormalities. Carbamazepine, which is recommended as first-line treatment,^{1,2} only slightly reduced the symptoms, making this essentially benign condition quite disabling.

Author contributions

Isis Joosten wrote the manuscript. Janneke Hoeijmakers evaluated the patient and finalized the manuscript.

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Disclosure

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