

VIDEO

Asymmetric freezing of gait in hemiparkinsonism-hemiatrophy

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A 62-year-old man presented with a 2-year history of dyskinesia and a 10-month history of gait difficulty. He had developed circumferential gait of the left leg at the age of 40 years. About 2 years later, he experienced slowness and stiffness with dystonic posturing of the left hand. When examined he had a mild left hemifacial and hand atrophy. There was marked rigidity, bradykinesia, and a 4–6 Hz resting tremor in the left extremities. When

he walked, he had circumduction of the left leg with ankle inversion and dystonic posturing of the left hand and foot as well as markedly decreased arm swing. His gait was frequently interrupted by unpredictable freezing, leading to immobilization. This freezing occurred most frequently when he turned to the left (see video clip). Brain MRI was normal. Hemiparkinsonism-hemiatrophy was diagnosed.

Freezing of gait (FOG) is a disabling gait disturbance associated with various types of parkinsonism.¹ As a midline symptom affecting both legs, FOG is known to affect gait symmetrically. As suggested by Giladi,² however, our patient clearly demonstrated unilateral FOG, ipsilateral to the side of parkinsonism.

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