

Teaching Video *NeuroImages*: The Stransky sign

A forgotten clinical sign



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The Stransky sign, like the Babinski sign, is a clinical reflex that demonstrates pyramidal tract dysfunction.¹ It is elicited by vigorous abduction of the little toe followed by its sudden release. In pyramidal lesions, one sees an extensor response of the great toe.

In our experience, the Stransky sign is less sensitive than the Babinski sign, but may be useful when the plantar response is inconclusive due to withdrawal or avoidance.

Erwin Stransky (1877–1962) was a Viennese neurologist and psychiatrist. He became a university

professor in Vienna in 1915. Stransky was a founder of modern teaching on schizophrenia.²

The patient (video on the *Neurology*[®] Web site at www.neurology.org) has spondylotic cervical myelopathy with a mild left-sided hemiparesis, bilateral ataxia, and bilateral loss of deep sensation.

REFERENCES

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