



# Teaching Video NeuroImages: Clonus of the lower jaw

## An old sign that comes back



Rosa Iodice, MD  
Fiore Manganelli, MD  
Raffaele Dubbioso, MD  
Lucia Ruggiero, MD  
Lucio Santoro, MD

Correspondence to  
Dr. Santoro:  
lusantor@unina.it

[Download teaching slides:  
Neurology.org](#)

[Supplemental data  
at Neurology.org](#)

We report the case of a 68-year-old woman with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) presenting with a 1-year history of progressive dysarthria with unintelligible speech, dysphagia, muscular wasting, and a troublesome chin tremor with difficulty in chewing. At clinical examination, our attention was drawn to clonus of the lower jaw (video on the *Neurology*<sup>®</sup> Web site at [Neurology.org](http://Neurology.org)). Exaggerated jaw jerk is due to supranuclear lesion of the trigeminal nerve and it may occur in ALS.<sup>1</sup> However, although the first description of clonus of the lower jaw in ALS dates back to 1886,<sup>2</sup> this sign is not frequently noticed in clinical practice.

### AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Dr. Rosa Iodice: acquisition of data, writing of manuscript, approval of data. Dr. Fiore Manganelli: acquisition of data, writing of manuscript,

approval of data, study supervision. Dr. Raffaele Dubbioso: acquisition of data, writing of manuscript, approval of data. Dr. Lucia Ruggiero: acquisition and approval of data. Dr. Lucio Santoro: approval of data and study supervision.

### STUDY FUNDING

No targeted funding reported.

### DISCLOSURE

The authors report no disclosures relevant to the manuscript. Go to [Neurology.org](http://Neurology.org) for full disclosures.

### REFERENCES

1. Kiernan MC, Vucic S, Cheah BC, et al. Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. *Lancet* 2011;377:942–955.
2. Beevor CE, de Wetteville A. A case of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis with clonus of the lower jaw. *Brain* 1886;8: 516–519.

# Neurology®

## Teaching Video *NeuroImages*: Clonus of the lower jaw: An old sign that comes back

Rosa Iodice, Fiore Manganeli, Raffaele Dubbioso, et al.

*Neurology* 2014;82:e96

DOI 10.1212/WNL.0000000000000221

**This information is current as of March 17, 2014**

<b>Updated Information &amp; Services</b>	including high resolution figures, can be found at: <a href="http://n.neurology.org/content/82/11/e96.full">http://n.neurology.org/content/82/11/e96.full</a>
<b>Supplementary Material</b>	Supplementary material can be found at: <a href="http://n.neurology.org/content/suppl/2014/03/15/82.11.e96.DC1">http://n.neurology.org/content/suppl/2014/03/15/82.11.e96.DC1</a> <a href="http://n.neurology.org/content/suppl/2014/03/15/82.11.e96.DC2">http://n.neurology.org/content/suppl/2014/03/15/82.11.e96.DC2</a>
<b>References</b>	This article cites 2 articles, 0 of which you can access for free at: <a href="http://n.neurology.org/content/82/11/e96.full#ref-list-1">http://n.neurology.org/content/82/11/e96.full#ref-list-1</a>
<b>Subspecialty Collections</b>	This article, along with others on similar topics, appears in the following collection(s): <b>All Clinical Neurology</b> <a href="http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/all_clinical_neurology">http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/all_clinical_neurology</a> <b>Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis</b> <a href="http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/amyotrophic_lateral_sclerosis">http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/amyotrophic_lateral_sclerosis</a> <b>Tremor</b> <a href="http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/tremor">http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/tremor</a>
<b>Permissions &amp; Licensing</b>	Information about reproducing this article in parts (figures, tables) or in its entirety can be found online at: <a href="http://www.neurology.org/about/about_the_journal#permissions">http://www.neurology.org/about/about_the_journal#permissions</a>
<b>Reprints</b>	Information about ordering reprints can be found online: <a href="http://n.neurology.org/subscribers/advertise">http://n.neurology.org/subscribers/advertise</a>

*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 © 2014 American Academy of Neurology. All rights reserved. Print ISSN: 0028-3878. Online ISSN: 1526-632X.

