Decorticate posture is an abnormal posturing in which a person is stiff with bent arms, clenched fists, and legs held out straight. The arms are bent in toward the body and the wrists and fingers are bent and held on the chest. This type of posturing is a sign of severe damage in the brain.

Classically attributed to disinhibition by removal of corticospinal pathways above the midbrain. Overview: abnormal flexion in UE and extension in LE.

Detail:

• UE: slow flexion of arm, wrist and fingers with adduction

• LE: extension, internal rotation, plantarflexion

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