

Dropped Head Syndrome

Dropped head (DH) syndrome is a phenomenon of disproportionate neck anteflexion that has been reported in patients with [Parkinson disease](#) (PD). Antiparkinsonian medications such as [dopamine agonists](#) (DAs) have been implicated in the onset of DH episodes. [Deep brain stimulation](#) (DBS) is an important therapeutic option after the failure of conventional treatments such as DA therapy in patients with PD.

Mano et al. report the case of a patient with rigid-akinetic parkinsonism who developed DH syndrome after the initiation of DA treatment. Dopaminergic agonist treatment was required to stabilize motor dysfunction during a period of 5 years; yet, the patient experienced no improvements in DH during this time. Thus, they initiated DBS as an alternative therapy and gradually withdrew DA therapy. The patient recovered from long-term DH after the discontinuation of [rotigotine](#) treatment. Accordingly, this case highlights DA treatment as a possible cause of DH and the use of DBS to allow the discontinuation of DA treatment while preserving motor function in patients with PD ¹⁾.

¹⁾

Mano T. Reversal of Dropped Head Syndrome After the Cessation of Dopaminergic Agonist Treatment in Parkinson Disease. Clin Neuropharmacol. 2017 Aug 14. doi: 10.1097/WNF.0000000000000243. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 28816836.

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