

# Mutism

Muteness or mutism is an inability to speak caused by a speech disorder in an otherwise cognitively alert patient <sup>1)</sup>.

Mutism is more commonly seen following posterior fossa surgery, predominantly in children, with a reported incidence varying from 2–40%. It has also been reported uncommonly in other cerebellar pathologies including trauma, vascular events and infection.

see [Akinetic mutism](#).

see [Cerebellar mutism](#).

Complication after [Corpus callosotomy](#).

The [syndrome](#) of the [supplementary motor area](#) (SMA) , characterised by contralateral [akinesia](#) and [mutism](#), is not well recognized and its features can easily be confused with pyramidal weakness.

<sup>1)</sup>

Fujisawa H, Yonaha H, Okumoto K, Uehara H, Ie T, Nagata Y, et al. Mutism after evacuation of acute subdural hematoma of the posterior fossa. Childs Nerv Syst. 2005;21:234–6. doi: 10.1007/s00381-004-0999-y.

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