

Myorhythmia

Myorhythmia is a hyperkinetic [movement disorder](#) that derives from a disruption of the [Triangle of Guillain and Mollaret](#), due to an identifiable structural lesion. It is often disabling and with disappointing control under medical treatment.

A case of myorhythmia secondary to a vascular [insult](#) in the [brainstem](#) is reported and an unsuccessful attempt to palliate it with [functional neurosurgery](#).

A 67-year-old man displayed a repetitive, rhythmic, slow 2-3 Hz movement, 6 months after suffering a pontomesencephalic hypertensive hematoma ([pontine hemorrhage](#)). The kinetic phenomenon affected the orbicular and low facial muscles, the neck, the thorax and the upper limbs. Furthermore, he exhibited [tremors](#) of the soft palate and [pendular nystagmus](#). On T2-weighted magnetic resonance imaging, [Hypertrophic olivary degeneration](#) of the [inferior olivary nucleus](#) complex was seen. He was diagnosed with secondary myorhythmia and multiple pharmacological treatments were tested but failed. Ultimately, [deep brain stimulation](#) with bilateral [electrodes](#) placed in the thalamic [ventralis intermedialis nucleus](#) was offered. Unfortunately, no alleviation of the symptoms was achieved other than mild improvement in involuntary eye movements.

This is the first case to report the use of [deep brain stimulation](#) for myorhythmia. A better understanding of the pathophysiology of this condition, and localization of the pacemaker, may allow the identification of reliable neurosurgical therapeutic targets ¹⁾.

¹⁾

Mosteiro A, Compta Y, Valldeoriola F, Rumià J, Roldán P, Vollmer I, Vilaseca I, Llull BL. [Deep brain stimulation](#) as a palliative treatment for [myorhythmia](#): A case of failure. Eur J Neurol. 2022 Mar;29(3):937-941. doi: 10.1111/ene.15200. PMID: 35141992.

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