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Resident & Fellow Section Teaching Neurolmage (or Teaching Video Neurolmage)

A 65-year-old women with quivering muscles

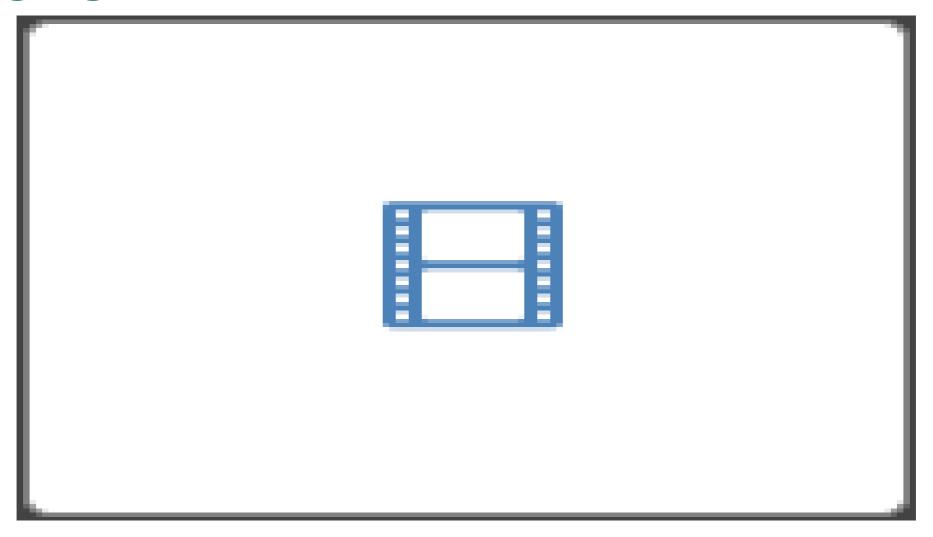


Vignette

- A 65-year-old women presented with a 2 year history of slowly progressive painless weakness, paresthesia and quivering muscles of the right arm.
- In the past medical history she was treated with radiotherapy for a supraclavicular metastasized non-small-cell lung carcinoma (radiation dose 66 Gray)
- Examination revealed subtle wasting and weakness of the deltoid, triceps and dorsal interossei muscles of the right arm. Involuntary wave-like, 'quivering' movements were seen in the right deltoid, triceps and dorsal interossei muscles. Biceps and brachioradial deep tendon reflexes were diminished on the right side. Further neurological examination was undisturbed.



Imaging





Myokymia on Muscle Ultrasound in Radiation-Induced Brachial Plexopathy

- The clinical scenario of non-dermatomal painless weakness, diminished reflexes and paresthesia of the right arm combined with the EMG findings (polyphasic motor unit potentials in C5-8 muscles of right arm) are compatible with brachial plexopathy.
- Demonstrating myokymia is highly suggestive for radiation-induced plexopathy and distinguishes it from other causes of plexopathy, including neoplastic plexopathy.
- Muscle ultrasound is a promising, non-invasive diagnostic tool for its detection, complementary to EMG

