

Eating dystonia in a case of neuroacanthocytosis

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Neuroacanthocytosis is an autosomal recessive neurodegenerative disease, characterized by chorea, dementia, seizure, acanthocytes on peripheral blood smear and caudate atrophy on brain magnetic resonance imaging (MRI).^{1,2}

These patients have severe orofacial dyskinesia and especially eating dystonia that causes severe eating problems and tongue and cheek biting. Eating or feeding dystonia, in combination with the above-mentioned signs and symptoms is characteristic of neuroacanthocytosis.¹⁻³

Here, we present a video clip of a 40-year-old woman with typical eating dystonia. When she puts bolus in the mouth; dystonic movement of the tongue pushes it out ([Video 1](#)).

She had progressive choreiform movements

especially orofacial dyskinesias since 10 years. Her brain MRI showed caudate atrophy and T2 and fluid-attenuated inversion recovery hyperintensity of caudate and putamens. On the peripheral blood smear, there were many acanthocytes.

Feeding dystonia is highly suggestive of neuroacanthocytosis and is a hallmark for this rare disease.³

Conflict of Interests

The author declares no conflict of interest in this study.

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