

Background

Only a handful of cases of unilateral apraxia of eyelid closure (AEC) & eyelid closure impersistence exist in the literature

Difficulty with voluntary eyelid closure maintenance thought likely due to motor impersistence/apraxia from parietal cortex lesion

Case description

70-year-old M with heavy 70-pack-year smoking history presented with left sided facial droop & left arm/leg weakness

Able to close both eyes on command, but difficulty keeping left eye closed for > 1-2 seconds

Able to blink and maintain eye closure during sleep

CT Head showed right MCA inferior division infarct as well as loss of gray-white differentiation within right posterior periventricular frontoparietal parenchyma

Apraxia of Eyelid Closure: An Unusual Case

Bari Madureira, DO MPH, Steven Sparr, MD Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, Montefiore Medical Center, The University Hospital for Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Apraxia of eyelid closure is an infrequently encountered finding. Additional cases are needed to assess what the etiology of this finding is

https://youtu.be/74TiqvAZaUE

Discussion

Apraxia of eyelid opening is a much more frequently encountered diagnosis in the literature

AEC is more commonly encountered in patients with diagnoses such as ALS, progressive supranuclear palsy & Huntington's disease

Multiple theories exist as to what causes this particular finding.

Previous cases have reported associations with lesions in the right frontal/parietal lobe as seen in our patient while other reports suggest an issue with the corpus callosum and abnormalities with brain signaling.

One other theory suggests that a lesion affecting control of the contralateral orbicularis oculi results in this phenomenon.

Favaretto S, Ferrari S, Battistin L, Cagnin A. Apraxia of eyelid closure in autopsyconfirmed vascular progressive supranuclear palsy. *Parkinsonism Relat Disord*. 2011;17(9):708-709.

Fukushima T, Hasegawa A, Matsubara N, Koike R. An apraxia of eyelid closure in association with frontal lobe atrophy in a patient with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. Rinsho shinkeigaku= Clinical neurology. 2007;47(5):226-230.

Gong S, DeCuypere M, Zhao Y, LeDoux MS. Cerebral cortical control of orbicularis oculi motoneurons. *Brain Res*. 2005;1047(2):177-193.

Hamano T, Kimura S, Miyao S, Teramoto J. Apraxia of eyelid closure complicating right parietal infarction. *Eur Neurol*. 2001;45(2):122-123.

Lee PH. Apraxia of Eyelid Closing and Unilateral Meige's Syndrome Complicating Left Middle Cerebral Artery Infarction. Published online 2007. doi=10.1.1.545.1116

Nishimura M, Tojima M, Suga M, Hirose K, Tanabe H. Chronic progressive spinobulbar spasticity with disturbance of voluntary eyelid closure: Report of a case with special reference to MRI and electrophysiological findings. *J Neurol Sci*. 1990;96(2):183-190.

Ragasudha B, Ramani A, Yadav R. Apraxia of eyelid closure in a case of post-Japanese encephalitis Parkinsonism. Neurol India. 2016;64(3):547-549.

Thon JM, Grossmann L, Bhattacharyya S. Teaching Video NeuroImages: Apraxia of eyelid closure following right hemispheric infarction. *Neurology*. 2017;89(2):e15.



References

Yamaya Y, Yoshioka A, Shirakawa T, Hirose G. Apraxia of eyelid closure in a patient with progressive supranuclear palsy. *Rinsho shinkeigaku= Clinical neurology*. 1999;39(9):940-943.

