Hoffman syndrome is a rare constellation of features that occurs in severely hypothyroid adults. It is characterized by muscle hypertrophy, weakness, stiffness, and slowness of movement with or without muscle cramps. Elevation of creatine kinase is common, but does not correlate with disease severity.

A 50-year-old man from Ghana presented with painful cramps and involuntary contractions of his shoulders, arms, and legs (see video on the Neurology® Web site at www.neurology.org). He reported difficulty with sustained muscle activity and fatigue. Laboratory data were significant for thyroid-stimulating hormone of 108 μIU/mL and creatine kinase of 6,072 U/L. He was diagnosed with severe hypothyroidism presenting as Hoffman syndrome. His symptoms resolved with levothyroxine.

REFERENCES

Teaching Video NeuroImages: Involuntary muscle contractions in Hoffman syndrome
Caitlin Loomis, Shawn J. Bird and Joshua M. Levine
Neurology 2010;75:836
DOI 10.1212/WNL.0b013e3181f073b4

This information is current as of August 30, 2010

Updated Information & Services
including high resolution figures, can be found at:
http://www.neurology.org/content/75/9/836.full.html

Supplementary Material
Supplementary material can be found at:
http://www.neurology.org/content/suppl/2010/08/27/75.9.836.DC1

References
This article cites 2 articles, 1 of which you can access for free at:
http://www.neurology.org/content/75/9/836.full.html##ref-list-1

Subspecialty Collections
This article, along with others on similar topics, appears in the following collection(s):
Clinical neurology examination
http://www.neurology.org/cgi/collection/clinical_neurology_examination
EMG
http://www.neurology.org/cgi/collection/emg
Endocrine
http://www.neurology.org/cgi/collection/endocrine
Muscle disease
http://www.neurology.org/cgi/collection/muscle_disease

Permissions & Licensing
Information about reproducing this article in parts (figures,tables) or in its entirety can be found online at:
http://www.neurology.org/misc/about.xhtml#permissions

Reprints
Information about ordering reprints can be found online:
http://www.neurology.org/misc/addir.xhtml#reprintsus

Neurology © is the official journal of the American Academy of Neurology. Published continuously since 1951, it is now a weekly with 48 issues per year. Copyright . All rights reserved. Print ISSN: 0028-3878. Online ISSN: 1526-632X.