Late attacks of paroxysmal ocular tilt reaction

A 54-year-old patient had a right mesodiencephalic hemorrhage in 1992, with residual double vision until 2000. He was symptom-free until 2010, when he developed fluctuating diplopia. We observed paroxysmal attacks of a right ocular tilt reaction (OTR) (video at Neurology.org), whereas in the interval he had a left OTR. MRI showed a calcification of the preexisting lesion (figure). The attacks are apparently caused by an excitation of the right interstitial nucleus of Cajal (INC),1 as supported by the effectiveness of carbamazepine (100mg b.i.d.). The delayed onset can be explained by a reorganization of the excitatory and inhibitory synapses found in the INC.2

Olympia Kremmyda, MD, PhD, Claudia Frenzel, Michael Strupp, MD, FANA, FEAN

From the University Hospital, Campus Grosshadern, Munich, Germany.

Author contributions: Olympia Kremmyda: analysis and interpretation of data, drafting the manuscript. Claudia Frenzel: acquisition and interpretation of data. Michael Strupp: interpretation of data, critically revising the manuscript for content.

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Correspondence to Dr. Kremmyda: Olympia.kremmyda@med.uni-muenchen.de

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Olympia Kremmyda, Claudia Frenzel and Michael Strupp
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