

## Protracted post-ictal trismus

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**Introduction:** Trismus is a motor disturbance of the trigeminal nerve, especially spasm of the masticatory muscles, resulting in difficulty in opening the mouth. It has a number of potential causes which range from the simple and non-progressive to those that are potentially life-threatening. In this paper we report for the first time the occurrence of trismus in the post ictal state.

**Methods:** This was a case study conducted at King Khalid Hospital.

**Results:** After a series of generalized convulsive seizures the patient developed a sustained trismus in the postictal phase, lasting for three days.

**Conclusion:** A number of physiological and metabolic factors have been implicated in the termination of seizure activity and transition to post-ictal state by creating inhibitory signals. In our patient the trismus may have signified a partial failure of the afore-mentioned inhibitory mechanisms at the mesencephalic-pontine level, causing a disruption of projections of the mesencephalic trigeminal nucleus to the pontine nucleus, resulting in a state of hypertonicity in the latter.

## Biography

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