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Teaching Video NeuroImages: Clonus of the lower jaw: An old sign that comes back

Rosa Iodice, Fiore Manganelli, Raffaele Dubbioso, et al.

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Teaching Video NeuroImages: Clonus of the lower jaw

An old sign that comes back



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We report the case of a 68-year-old woman with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) presenting with a 1-year history of progressive dysarthria with unintelligible speech, dysphagia, muscular wasting, and a troublesome chin tremor with difficulty in chewing. At clinical examination, our attention was drawn to clonus of the lower jaw (video on the *Neurology*[®] Web site at [Neurology.org](#)). Exaggerated jaw jerk is due to supranuclear lesion of the trigeminal nerve and it may occur in ALS.¹ However, although the first description of clonus of the lower jaw in ALS dates back to 1886,² this sign is not frequently noticed in clinical practice.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Dr. Rosa Iodice: acquisition of data, writing of manuscript, approval of data. Dr. Fiore Manganelli: acquisition of data, writing of manuscript,

approval of data, study supervision. Dr. Raffaele Dubbioso: acquisition of data, writing of manuscript, approval of data. Dr. Lucia Ruggiero: acquisition and approval of data. Dr. Lucio Santoro: approval of data and study supervision.

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DISCLOSURE

The authors report no disclosures relevant to the manuscript. Go to [Neurology.org](#) for full disclosures.

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