Ramsay Hunt Syndrome Type 2

Ramsay Hunt syndrome type 2 is also called *dyssynergia cerebellaris myoclonica*. It refers to a collection of neurological disorders. These are both rare and degenerative. It is characterized by:

- Epilepsy.
- Cognitive impairment.
- Myoclonus.
- Progressive ataxia.

Some cases are due to mitochondrial abnormalities.

SYMPTOMS

Symptoms include:

- Seizures.
- Tremor.
- Reduced muscle coordination.

Onset of the disorder generally occurs in early adulthood. Tremor may begin in one extremity. Later it may spread to involve the entire voluntary muscular system. Arms are usually more affected than legs.

TREATMENT

Treatment of Ramsay Hunt type 2 is symptomatic. Myoclonus and seizures may be treated with drugs like valproate.

The progression of the disorder is usually 10 years or longer.

RESEARCH BEING DONE

The NINDS supports a broad range of research on neurodegenerative disorders. This includes Ramsay Hunt syndrome type II. The goals of this research are to find ways to prevent, treat, and cure these disorders.

Research is continually being done to learn more about this problem.

Provided by: The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

Document Released: 12/08/2003 Document Re-Released: 03/16/2010

ExitCare® Patient Information ©2011 ExitCare, LLC.