

E-Pearl of the Week

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Re-emergent tremor in Parkinson's disease

Resting tremor is a common feature of idiopathic Parkinson's disease (PD). Often, postural tremor is also observed in patients with PD with a latency between the assumption of outstretched arms and the onset of the tremor of up to 10 seconds. This postural tremor, therefore, is called re-emergent tremor. In essential tremor (ET), by contrast, almost no latency is observed. The frequency of re-emergent tremor is identical to the resting tremor in PD, suggesting the common pathophysiological mechanism. Re-emergent tremor is useful to differentiate between PD and ET.

Reference

Jankovic J, Schwartz KS, Ondo W. Re-emergent tremor of Parkinson's disease. *J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry* 1999; 67:646-50.