

## CLINICAL VIDEO

# An unusual cause of difficulty in walking downstairs: Focal task-specific dystonia in the lower limb

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**Abstract**

Stair-specific FTSD in the lower limb is very rare. Most patients show dystonic posture when walking downstairs rather than upstairs.

**KEYWORDS**

downstairs, dystonia, kicking movement, lower limb, task-specific

Dystonia is a neurological disorder that causes involuntary, excessive muscle contraction. We report a 59-year-old woman with focal task-specific dystonia (FTSD) when going downstairs.

In her early 20s, she exhibited a weird movement on her leg when descending stairs. Her symptom was characterized by a patterned “kicking movement” only when walking downstairs (Video S1). Neurological examination and brain MRI showed no abnormality. Stair-specific FTSD is a rare clinical entity. Most patients show dystonic posture when walking downstairs, and two phenotypes (kicking and lifting type) have been described.<sup>1,2</sup> Pharmacological intervention usually fails, but the symptoms remain unchanged over a long time.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

None declared.

**AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

TH: involved in the acquisition of data, supervised the study, analyzed and interpreted the data, and wrote the paper.

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2. Arceri T, Ratliff J. A case of ascending and descending stair-specific dystonia. *J Mov Disord.* 2019;12(2):130-131.

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

Additional supporting information may be found online in the Supporting Information section.

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