

## Haloperidol

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**Bradykinesia and tremor of upper limb: case report**

A 40-year-old woman developed bradykinesia and action/postural tremor of the left upper limb during treatment with haloperidol for stereotypical choreiform upper-limb and paroxysmal lower-limb movements.

The woman, who was an overweight (BMI 28.3 kg/m<sup>2</sup>), was transported to an emergency department due to syncope following a few days of anosmia, fever, dyspnoea and fatigue in late March 2020 (day 0). Subsequently, she was diagnosed with SARS-CoV-2 infection. Upon admission to ICU, she was sedated, along with intubation and mechanical ventilatory support. During early April (day 14), she was extubated and sedation was discontinued; she was found to be fully alert, uncooperative and agitated. Later, her condition worsened, along with recurrent generalised tonic-clonic seizures. Laboratory analyses were remarkable for high levels of CRP and WBC. A CT scan revealed increased metabolism in the subthalamic nuclei and mesial temporal lobes. Therefore, she received immune-globulin therapy for 5 days; however, she developed stereotypical choreiform upper-limb and paroxysmal lower-limb movements. Hence, she started receiving therapy with haloperidol [*route and dosage not stated*]. Further, second week onward, her condition improved rapidly and during mid-May (day 57), she was found to be cooperative, fully alert and able to communicate fluently. A neurological examination was performed, which revealed presence of bradykinesia and action/postural tremor of the left upper limb, which was attributed to ongoing therapy with haloperidol [*duration of treatment to reaction onset not stated*]. However, as laboratory analyses were unremarkable post immune-globulin therapy, a second cycle with immune-globulin was initiated in late June, when she was displaying parkinsonian signs.

Therefore, the woman discontinued therapy with haloperidol in late July. Subsequently, 2 weeks later (day 143), no significant PET abnormalities or neurologic signs were noted [*outcome not stated clearly*].

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