

DYS. Dystonia

NIHR BioResource – Rare Diseases study project

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V1 15/07/2019

Summary

Dystonia is a medical term for a range of movement disorders that cause muscle spasms and contractions. The spasms and contractions may either be sustained or may come and go.



Prof. Nick Wood, DYS project Lead

Movements are often repetitive and cause unusual, awkward and sometimes painful postures. Tremor (shaking) can also be a characteristic of some types of dystonia. Dystonia is thought to be a neurological condition (caused by underlying problems with the brain and nervous system). However, in most cases, brain functions such as intelligence, memory and language remain unaffected.

Recruitment Criteria

Inclusion

Patients with a clinical diagnosis of Dystonia under secondary medical care in the UK.

Exclusion

Dystonia due to an identified environmental cause, for example stroke or brain injury.