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A Case of Painful Trigeminal Neuropathy as a Complication of Progressive Systemic Sclerosis

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Progressive systemic sclerosis (PSS) is a multi-systemic disorder characterized by abundant fibrosis of the skin, blood vessels, and visceral organs. But it rarely affects the peripheral nervous system. We report a 36-year-old man of painful trigeminal neuropathy as a complication of PSS. He was referred from Rheumatology for the evaluation of abruptly developed bilateral facial pain. He had facial hypesthesia and paresthesia on neurologic examinations. In the blink reflex, ipsilateral and contralateral R1 and R2 responses were not detected during bilateral supraorbital stimulation. But normal latency and CMAP amplitude of facial NCV were found. Under the impression of trigeminal neuropathy caused by PSS, steroid therapy was tried, and his clinical symptoms and electrophysiologic findings were improved. PSS could be the cause of the painful trigeminal neuropathy.

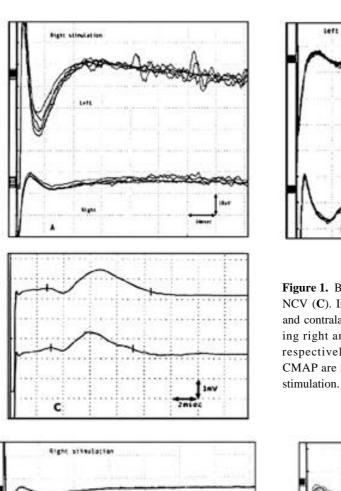
Key Words: Progressive systemic sclerosis, Painful trigeminal neuropathy, Blink reflex

(progressive systemic sclero-2 PSS) Subcommittee for scleroderma criteria of the sis: 가 American Rheumatism Association Diagnostic and Therapeutic Criteria Committee Preliminary criteria for the classification of systemic sclerosis (scleroderma) (PSS) **PSS** (prednisolone 10mg daily) (methotrexate 16 mg weekly) 가 가 가 2 35 가 3 (CMAP) Address for correspondence Seung Hyun Kim, M.D. R1. R2 R2 Department of Neurology, College of Medicine, Hanyang University (Fig. 1). Hangdang dong, Sungdong Gu, Seoul 133-792 Tel: +82-2-2290-8367, Fax: +82-2-2299-2391 **PSS**

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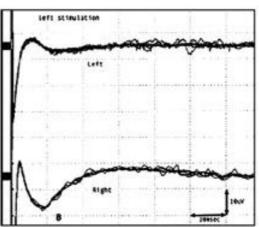
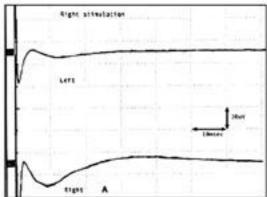


Figure 1. Blink reflex (A: right, B: Left) and facial NCV (C). In the blink reflex, ipsilateral R1 and R2 and contralateral R2 responses are not detected during right and left supraorbital nerve stimulation respectively. Normal latency and amplitude of CMAP are noted during right and lest facial nerve stimulation.



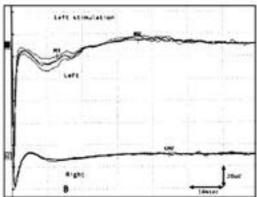
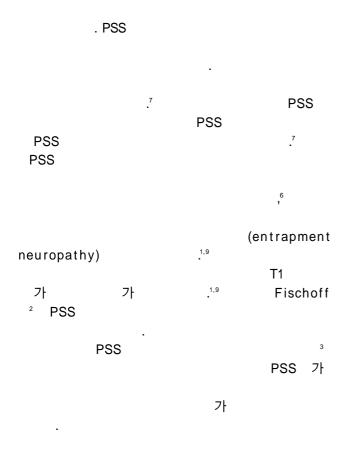


Figure 2. Follow up blink reflex after 3 months later. The ipsilateral R1 and R2 and the contralateral R2 responses, which were not found initially are detected during the left supraorbital nerve stimulation. However, the R1 response is prolonged and the ipsilateral and contralateral R2 responses are still not detected during the right supraorbital nerve stimulation.

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prednisolone
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                                          car-
                      가
bamazepine 600 mg
 3
                                                        가
                                                                                             (47%),
                                            R1
                                                                  (26\%)
                                                                                            (19\%)
      =11.0 msec), R2 (
                                            R2
(
                          =31.5 msec)
                                                                      .1,7 Soubrier 10
                                                                                           PSS, 4
         =30.9 msec)
                                                                                       12
                  R1
                                  18.3 msec)
             가 가
                                        R2
                                                     PSS
                                                               (0.8% ~ 18.5%) Farrell
                                                                                        16
                                                   PSS
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