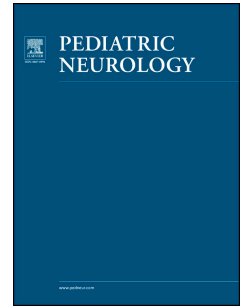


# Accepted Manuscript



Severe Neurological Complications Associated with Tourette Syndrome

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## Severe Neurological Complications Associated with Tourette Syndrome

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### *Abstract*

**Introduction:** Tics and Tourette syndrome are common problems evaluated by both the general pediatrician and pediatric neurologist. The common comorbidities of tics are well known, but the severe neurological complications are rare and may not be appreciated.

**Methods:** This is a retrospective case series and literature review.

**Results:** We present here four adolescents with Tourette syndrome who had severe neurologic complications secondary to motor tics. We provide the history, neurologic examination, and radiological findings in addition to a review of previously reported cases of vascular and cervical cord complications associated with violent motor tics.

**Discussion:** We highlight the importance of recognizing the presenting signs of these complications early and the need to vigorously treat violent motor tics to prevent significant neurological complications.

### *Introduction*

Tourette syndrome is a common problem seen in the pediatric neurology clinic. Tics generally are benign in nature, and many do not require medical treatment. First-line management often involves education for patients and families about the natural course of tics. Education alone often can help to alleviate the stress associated with tics.<sup>1</sup> However, Tourette syndrome is known to have associated behavioral and psychiatric comorbidities, including sleep disorders, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, obsessive-compulsive behaviors and disorder, anxiety and mood disorder.<sup>2</sup> Cheung, et al describe malignant Tourette syndrome as two or more emergency room visits or one or more hospitalization for Tourette syndrome symptoms or associated behavioral comorbidities, with only 5% of patients referred

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