T. Leydenbach

Dystonia ogniskowa u muzyków

Focal Dystonia in Musicians.

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Focal dystonia in musicians, also known as musician's dystonia or musician's cramp, is a task-specific movement disorder that presents itself as muscular incoordination or loss of voluntary motor control of extensively trained movements while a musician is playing the instrument." (E.Altenmüller)

Two short clinical vignettes, a very gifted and well known classical pianist in his early thirties and a talented young flute player still at the beginning of her career, will give us insight into this highly disabling disorder, which affects 1% of all professional musicians and in many cases terminates musical careers.

Physiopathology, triggering factors and treatment strategies will be discussed as well as the strong interference of neurological and psychological aspects. Recent research which might suggest a genetic contribution is still under discussion. Treatment options include pharmacological interventions, retraining programs and psychotherapeutic approach.