Long-term effects of mercury intoxication in the peripheral nervous system

Efeitos tardios pela intoxicação com mercúrio no sistema nervoso periférico

Joseph B.B. Brooks^{1,2}, Luisa F. Rocha³, Yara Dadalti Fragoso¹

Female, 63 years old, 11 years of progressive distal paresthesia, paresis and atrophy of the limbs. The electrophysiological examination showed severe axonal polyneuropathy involving both motor and sensory fibers. There was evidence of dense and minute images in the hands and elbows in the radiological image (Figure). The patients had a history of

previous surgery with the use of a mercury column to monitor the arterial pressure. Her serum levels of mercury (12 years after the procedure) were 130 mcg per liter (reference 0-10) and the urinary levels were 765 mcg per liter (reference 0-10). Accidents like this have been reported before, but only for acute intoxication¹.



References

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Correspondence: Joseph B. B. Brooks; Rua da Constituição, 374; 11025-470 Santos SP, Brasil; E-mail: joseph3b@gmail.com Conflict of interest: There is no conflict of interest to declare.

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¹Departamento de Neurologia, Universidade Metropolitana de Santos, Santos SP, Brazil;

²Departamento de Fisiologia, Universidade Metropolitana de Santos, Santos SP, Brazil;

³Departamento de Reumatologia, Centro Universitário Lusíada, Santos SP, Brazil.