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Footnotes

It would be more accurate to describe the shoulder movement as involving anatomical abduction/adduction. However, since the

movement was constrained to a single plane by the arm support there is no risk of confusion.

We thank David Marsh for suggesting this transformation and Ian Nimmo-Smith for assistance with the statistical analyses.

The analyses were also carried out with all data included in the analysis. As it turned out, with the exception of the control subject, the estimates of asymptote and slope were very similar which suggests that the precaution of excluding the first session data was unnecessary.

Dechambre's description of lacunes, 1838

Miller Fisher's classic paper was based on 114 (11%) cases in an unselected series of 1,042 autopsies.¹ He defined them as ischaemic infarcts of restricted size in the deeper parts of the brain and traced their description to Durand-Fardel's case 78 in a treatise on softening of the brain.²

"The striatum on each side showed a certain number of small lacunes with no associated alteration of colour or consistency from whose surface there extended a fine meshwork containing very small vessels."

Elsewhere in the monograph he recognised état criblé.

More recently GC Roman³ has drawn attention to the work of Amédée Dechambre (1812–1886) who studied in Paris, graduated from Strasbourg and dedicated his career to journalism, founding the *Gazette Hebdomadaire de Médecine et de Chirurgie* and published a *Dictionnaire Encyclopédique des Sciences Médicales* in 100 volumes. The May 19 issue⁴ of *Gazette Médicale de Paris* includes his report; Case 9 was a patient studied

pathologically after an initial recovery from hemiplegia:

"A number of small lacunes, of variable size and form, more or less filled with a milky fluid . . . resulting from liquefaction and partial reabsorption in the centre of the softening. According to the degree of hardening and reabsorption of the liquified pulp these lacunes appear empty or stay more or less filled . . . It is, no doubt, with small foci of partial softening, that these round cavities without membranes should be correlated."

Dechambre thus beat Durand-Fardel by some 5 years!

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