

Criss-cross gait

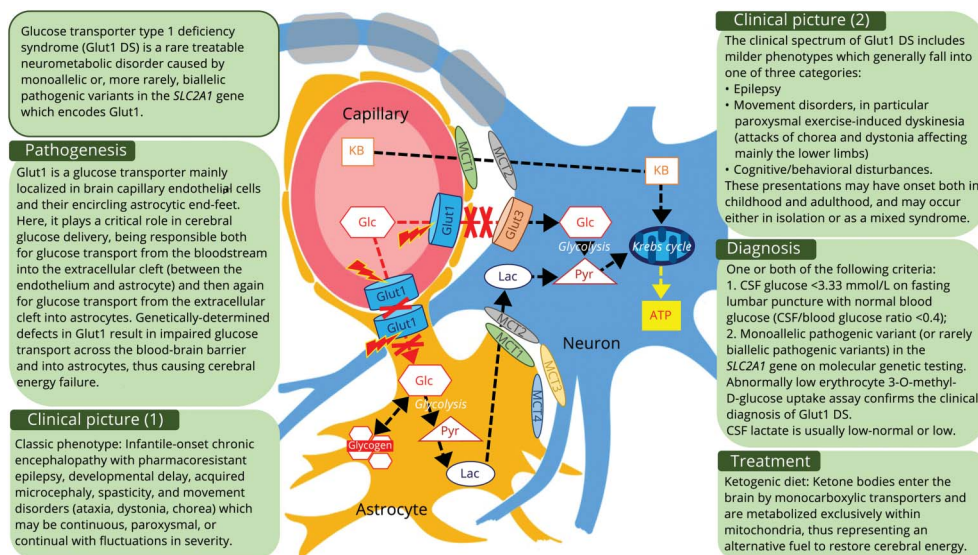
A clue to glucose transporter type 1 deficiency syndrome

Francesca Magrinelli, MD, Eoin Mulroy, MD, FRACP, Susanne A. Schneider, MD, PhD, Anna Latorre, MD, PhD, Giulia Di Lazzaro, MD, Anita Hennig, MD, Stephanie Grünwald, MD, PhD, Darryl C. De Vivo, MD, DM, Kailash P. Bhatia, MD, DM, FRCP

Correspondence
Prof. Bhatia
k.bhatia@ucl.ac.uk

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Figure Overview of the pathogenesis, phenotypes, diagnosis, and treatment of glucose transporter type 1 deficiency syndrome (Glut1 DS)



Red dashed lines indicate defective pathways in Glut1 DS. ATP = adenosine triphosphate; Glc = glucose; Glut = glucose transporter; KB = ketone bodies; Lac = lactate; MCT = monocarboxylic transporter; Pyr = pyruvate.

Nearly 90% of patients with glucose transporter type 1 deficiency syndrome (Glut1 DS; figure) have paroxysmal or constant gait abnormalities, including ataxic, spastic, ataxic-spastic, and dystonic gait.^{1,2} We report 3 cases of genetically proven Glut1 DS (table) demonstrating a distinctive paroxysmal gait disorder triggered by exertion or fasting, herein named “criss-cross gait” (video 1). It is characterized by lower-body choreo-dyskinesia causing the legs to intersect repeatedly, producing irregular, random steps combined with some loss of balance. Compensatory upper-body movements help maintain balance. In the appropriate clinical context, criss-cross gait should prompt evaluation for the treatable Glut1 DS and not be misinterpreted as functional.

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From the Department of Clinical and Movement Neurosciences (F.M., E.M., A.L., G.D.L., K.P.B.), UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology, University College London, UK; Department of Neurosciences, Biomedicine and Movement Sciences (F.M.), University of Verona, Italy; Department of Neurology (S.A.S., A.H.), Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Germany; Department of Systems Medicine (G.D.L.), University of Roma Tor Vergata, Rome, Italy; Department of Metabolic Medicine (S.G.), UCL Great Ormond Street Hospital Institute of Child Health, NIHR Biomedical Research Center, London, UK; and Departments of Neurology and Pediatrics (D.C.D.V.), Columbia University Irving Medical Center, New York, NY.

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Video

Table Clinical and genetic features of 3 patients with genetically confirmed glucose transporter type 1 deficiency syndrome showing the criss-cross gait (video 1)

	Case 1	Case 2	Case 3
Current age, y	54	25	24
Sex	Female	Male	Female
Ethnicity	White British	White British	Germanic
Age at onset	6 y	5 y	11 mo
Clinical picture	PED (episodes of toe curling, foot dystonia, limb choreoathetosis)	PED (episodes of foot dystonia, jerky choreiform movements in limbs), episodes of slurred speech	Motor development delay, atypical absence epilepsy, PED (episodes of “wobbly gait”), mild intellectual disability
Family history	Father: history of paroxysmal dystonic choreoathetosis, possibly affected (retrospectively); son affected	Father affected	Negative (de novo mutation)
CSF analysis	Not performed	CSF glucose = 1.9 mmol/L (with blood glucose = 6.8 mmol/L), CSF/blood glucose ratio = 0.28	Not available
Genetic testing SLC2A1 (ENST00000426263)	Heterozygous variant c.601T>C (p.Cys201Arg)	Heterozygous variant c.278G>A (p.Arg93Gln)	Heterozygous variant c.998G>A (p.Arg333Gln)
Treatment and follow-up	Patient declined to start ketogenic diet; overall reduction in the intensity and frequency of paroxysmal symptoms with age over a 20-year follow-up	Ketogenic diet since age 6 with marked improvement of symptoms; episodes characterized by mild twitching in feet, difficulty concentrating, and slurred speech may occur in relation to occasional dietary indiscretions	Ketogenic diet since age 12 with low adherence; mild constant gait unsteadiness and occasional paroxysmal worsening of gait disturbance over a 12-year follow-up

Abbreviation: PED = paroxysmal exercise-induced dyskinesia.

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Appendix Authors

Name	Location	Contribution
Francesca Magrinelli, MD	UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology, University College London, UK	Designed and conceptualized study, major role in the acquisition of data, analyzed the data, drafted the manuscript for intellectual content
Eoin Mulroy, MD, FRACP	UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology, University College London, UK	Designed and conceptualized study, major role in the acquisition of data, revised the manuscript for intellectual content
Susanne A. Schneider, MD, PhD	Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Germany	Major role in the acquisition of data, revised the manuscript for intellectual content
Anna Latorre, MD, PhD	UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology, University College London, UK	Major role in the acquisition of data, revised the manuscript for intellectual content

Appendix (continued)

Name	Location	Contribution
Giulia Di Lazzaro, MD	UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology, University College London, UK	Major role in the acquisition of data, revised the manuscript for intellectual content
Anita Hennig, MD	Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Germany	Major role in the acquisition of data, revised the manuscript for intellectual content
Stephanie Grünewald, MD, PhD	UCL Great Ormond Street Hospital Institute of Child Health, NIHR Biomedical Research Center, London, UK	Major role in the acquisition of data, revised the manuscript for intellectual content
Darryl C. De Vivo, MD	Columbia University Irving Medical Center, New York, NY	Major role in the acquisition of data, revised the manuscript for intellectual content
Kailash P. Bhatia, MD, DM, FRCP	UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology, University College London, UK	Design and conceptualized study, major role in the acquisition of data, revised the manuscript for intellectual content

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