POST-HERPETIC PARESIS OF THE SHOULDER: A CASE REPORT

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Postherpetic shoulder paresis is a rare complication of the herpes zoster disease. Motor functional deficits can include root, plexus or pheripheral nerves. A 71 year old female patient presented with complaint of painful left shoulder and severe paresis. Painful and pruritic rash of zoster spreads throughout the dermatome, evolving through papular, vesicular and crusting stages. Acute-subacute neurogenic findings belonging to the superior truncus of brachial plexus were shown with EMG test. The patient's pain dramatically decreased after physical therapy combined with oral and topical acyclovir and oral gabapentin treatment. However, no improvement was observed in her paresis. Control EMG test revealed chronic neurogenic involvement.