**Dystonic Reaction**

### History
- Medical history
- Medications
- Abuse or recreational use of prescription medications

### Signs and Symptoms
- Restlessness
- Muscle spasms of the neck, jaw and back
- Oculogyric crisis
- A “dragging leg”
- Speech difficulties

### Differential
- Trauma
- Stroke
- Tumor
- Hypoxia
- Infection
- Drug reactions
- Poisoning

### Signs and Symptoms

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<tr>
<th>E</th>
<th>Obtain vital signs</th>
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<td>P</td>
<td>Consider, Oxygen</td>
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<td>(low flow unless altered or in respiratory distress or shock)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pulse oximetry</td>
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<td>Cardiac monitor</td>
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<td>Establish IV/IO</td>
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<td>Diphenhydramine 50mg IV/IO/IM</td>
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<td>Monitor and reassess</td>
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<td>Notify receiving facility. Contact Base Hospital for medical direction</td>
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### Pearls
- Common drugs implicated in dystonic reactions include many anti-emetics and anti-psychotic medications including, but not limited to:
  - Prochlorperazine (Compazine)
  - Haloperidol (Haldol)
  - Metoclopramide (Reglan)
  - Promethazine (Phenergan)
  - Fluphenazine (Prolixin)
  - Chlorpromazine (Thorazine)
  - Many other anti-psychotic and anti-emetic drugs
- Rarely, benzodiazepine drugs have been implicated as a cause of dystonic reaction.