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Spastic Gait

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Synonyms

[Stiff-legged gait](#)

Definition

Spastic gait is caused by increased muscle contraction of the limbs. As a result, the individual must drag a leg if the spasticity is on one side or

waddle if both of the legs have increased tone. A spastic gait can be seen after stroke, with multiple sclerosis and other neurodegenerative diseases.

Cross-References

- ▶ [Circumduction](#)
- ▶ [Multiple Sclerosis](#)
- ▶ [Stroke](#)

References and Readings

Hallett, M. (2007). Stiffness syndrome. In S. Fahn & J. Jankovic (Eds.), *Principles and practice of movement disorders* (pp. 295–299). Philadelphia: Churchill Livingstone Elsevier.