

# Tics

**Tics** are rapid, irregularly repeating, stereotyped movements or vocalizations accompanied by a release of internal tension. They have a compulsive nature, but are partially influenced by will. They ease when concentrating on another activity, worsen with stress and excitement. Unlike other hyperkinetic disorders, they persist even during sleep.<sup>[1]</sup>

## Types

- Motion x sound.
- Simple x complex.
- **Simple movement tics** – clonic (e.g. twitching of the nose) or dystonic (e.g. opening and twisting of the mouth).
- **Complex movement tics** (eg throwing strands of hair out of eyes).
- **Simple sound tics** (coughing).
- **Complex sound (vocal) tics** (e.g. coprolalia, echolalia, pallialia).

*According to the cause:* idiopathic (Tourette syndrome), symptomatic (secondary).<sup>[1]</sup>

## Etiology

Dysfunction of the basal ganglia - transient increased sensitivity of dopaminergic receptors.

 *For more information see Tics/PGS/Diagnosis.*

## Links

### Related articles

- Extrapyrmidal syndromes
- Hypokinetic extrapyramidal syndromes

### References

1. NEVŠÍMALOVÁ, Soňa – RŮŽIČKA, Evžen – TICHÝ, Jiří. *Neurologie*. - edition. Galén, 2005. pp. 30-35. ISBN 80-7262-160-2.