Unilateral tongue myokymia - A rare topodiagnostic sign of different clinical conditions

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Myokymia of the tongue is a very rare clinical condition and is much less common than facial or focal myokymia of the limbs. Radiation-induced delayed nerve damage is a well-known cause of myokymia, but other etiologies i.e. tumor recurrence should be considered as a differential diagnosis. We describe a case series of neurophysiologically proven unilateral tongue myokymia, which arose in two patients after radiotherapy of the neck/head and in one patient due to a space occupying meningioma of the cerebrospinal passage affecting the hypoglossal nerve. With this case series and a review of the literature we aim to raise clinical suspicion of tongue myokymia and highlight the clinical and electromyographic impact of myokymia in the diagnosis of malignancies and treatment-associated lesions of the hypoglossal nerve.