
IMAGES

Bilateral Achilles tendon rupture after quinolone treatment

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An 83 year-old man with a history of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease consulted the emergency department for syncope. In the interview he described a sudden pain, preceded by a click on the right heel as he came down a flight of stairs. He then experienced intense pain in the left heel on transferring his weight to the left leg, and finally fell to the ground on fainting. Physical examination revealed a notch or indent visible

and palpable at the level of both Achilles tendons (Figure 1 arrows) and abnormal Thompson maneuver. Two days before the current process, the patient had completed a course of treatment with levofloxacin and methylprednisolone for exacerbation of the underlying disease. Achilles tendon rupture is a rare entity associated with quinolone treatment, but the risk increases when associated with steroids.



Figure 1. Bilateral achilles tendon rupture after quinolone treatment. A notch or indent was observed at the level of both Achilles tendons (arrows).

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