

Eponyms in dermatology literature linked to Otorhinolaryngology

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ABSTRACT

In some disorders, there are symptoms or signs shared by dermatology and ears, nose and throat (ENT) specialty. It is also known that there are eponyms in dermatology and ENT. The aim in this short communication is to shed some lights on the eponyms in dermatology literature linked to ENT.

Key words: Dermatology; Diseases; Eponyms

In some disorders, there are symptoms or signs shared by dermatology and ears, nose and throat (ENT) specialty. It is also known that there are eponyms in dermatology and ENT.

The aim in this short communication is to shed some lights on the eponyms in dermatology literature linked to ENT.

However, one may note that not all the disorders with shared symptoms and signs between dermatology and ENT are familiarly known by its correct eponym. Just as example, is Schwann syndrome, which is a combination of knuckle pads, leukonychia, and sensorineural deafness. It was first reported by Jadwiga Schwann.

Jadwiga Schwann was a dermatologist from Poland. Among her contributions to dermatology, she is credited for describing a syndrome, in German and Polish languages. This syndrome appeared latter in English literature by Robert S. Bart (Dermatologist) (Fig. 1) and Robert E. Pumphrey (Otolaryngologist); both from USA, and so the syndrome was then known as Bart – Pumphrey syndrome. Schwann syndrome is



Figure 1: Robert S. Bart.

cited in the Online Mendelian Inheritance in Man, as knuckle pads, leukonychia, and sensorineural deafness. It is characterized by knuckle pads, leukonychia, palmoplantar keratoderma (PPK) and sensorineural deafness [1].

In Table 1 was listed selected eponymous conditions in dermatology literature linked to ENT.

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Table 1: Selected eponymous conditions in dermatology literature linked to ENT

Eponymous conditions in dermatology literature linked to ENT	Remarks
Frey's syndrome [1-3]	It is named after, Lucja Frey or Łucja Frey-Gottesman (1889 in Lwów – 1942), [Fig. 2], who was a Polish physician and neurologist. She was one of the first female academic neurologists in Europe. She perished in 1942 in Lwów ghetto aged 53.
Ludwig angina [4]	Wilhelm Frederick von Ludwig (1790-1865), [Fig. 3], a German physician first described in 1836 a potentially fatal, rapidly spreading soft tissue infection of the neck and floor of the mouth. The condition was later named „Ludwig's angina”, a term which persists in medicine to this day.
Ramsay Hunt syndrome [5-7]	Also known as herpes zoster oticus. It is associated with an acute peripheral facial nerve paresis and quite often with other cranial nerve lesions. The combination of motor, sensory and autonomic involvement leads to a variety of neurological damage patterns, i. e. facial muscle paresis, hearing and balance disorders, sensory problems and disturbances of taste as well as lacrimal and nasal secretion. Additional variability of the clinical picture of Ramsay Hunt syndrome is produced by varying patterns of skin involvement explained by individual anastomoses between cranial and cervical nerves. It is named after, James Ramsay Hunt (1872-1937), [Fig. 4], who was an American neurologist. Hunt served as president of the American Neurologic Association in 1920, the New York Neurologic Society in 1929, the American Psychopathological Society in 1932, and the Association for Research in Nervous and Mental Disorders in 1934. He described three discrete syndromes, the best known of which is herpes zoster oticus, also known as Ramsay Hunt syndrome type 2.



Figure 2: Lucja Frey (1889-1942).

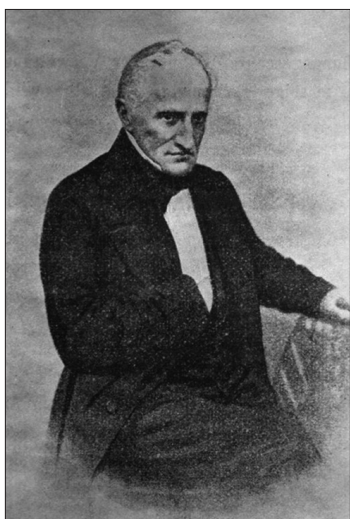


Figure 3: Wilhelm Frederick von Ludwig (1790-1865).



Figure 4: James Ramsay Hunt (1872-1937).

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