Acquired neuromyotonia is an autoimmune disease in which the immune system malfunctions so that it damages parts of one's own body. Approximately 40% of affected individuals have antibodies to voltage-gated potassium channels (VGKC's) that affect the points at which the signals from the nerve fiber meet the muscle cell (neuromuscular junction). Aquired neuromyotonia is a rare disorder affecting males and females but is slightly more common among men. Disease onset is usually between the ages of 15 and 60 years but has also been reported in childhood. The diagnosis of acquired neuromyotonia is based on the presence of continuous muscle contractions (myokymia), especially in the face and hands, rhythmic tics or twitches (fasciculations), and muscle cramps. The diagnosis is confirmed by studies of the electrical signs of muscle activity (electromyography).