Thalamic Pain Syndrome

AKA
- (Post Stroke) Central Pain Syndrome (CPS)
- Dejerine-Roussy Syndrome
- Posterior Thalamic Pain Syndrome
- Retrolenticular Stroke Syndrome
Possible Causes

- Direct Injury to Thalamus
- Suprathalamic Cortical Lesion
- Brainstem Infarct (Medulla)
- Primary or Secondary Tumors
- Direct Injury to Thalamus
Signs & Symptoms

Immediate to 2 years (or more) post-injury

- **Allodynia** – pain elicited by a non-noxious (thermal or mechanical) stimulus
- **Hyperalgesia** – exaggerated pain response to a mildly noxious stimulus
- **Hyperpathia** – delayed and explosive pain response to a noxious stimulus.
- **Dysthesia** – abnormal sensations (“Dante-esque pain”)
Central Sensitization

- Ectopic Discharges
- Reorganization of mechanoreceptor input
- Inappropriate connections with nociceptive pathways
- Reduced nociceptive threshold
- Increased receptive field size
- Loss of Inhibitory controls