A 21-year-old woman presented with progressive spastic paraplegia, dysarthria, and strabismus since 7 years of age (video on the Neurology® Web site at Neurology.org). Brain MRI disclosed white matter changes and iron accumulation (figure). Whole exome sequencing detected in fatty acid 2-hydroxylase (FA2H) gene 2 variants never reported: c.169_170insGCGGGCCAGG (p.Asp57Glyfs*66), leading, if translated, to a truncated protein, and c.117C>A (p.Phe39Leu), predicted by computational algorithms to be deleterious.

FA2H deficiency is responsible for SPG35, a rare autosomal recessive complicated hereditary spastic paraplegia.1,2 Strabismus, dysarthria, and spastic paraplegia with brain MRI showing iron accumulation and white matter changes are common in SPG35 and may suggest the diagnosis.1,2 Molecular analysis is necessary to confirm this unusual condition.

José Luiz Pedroso, MD, PhD, Benjamin W. Handfas, MD, Ageisandro Abrabão, MD, Fernando Kok, MD, PhD, Orlando G.P. Barsottini, MD, PhD, Acary S. Bulle Oliveira, MD, PhD

From the Universidade Federal de São Paulo (J.L.P., A.A., O.G.P.B., A.S.B.O.); Hospital Israelita Albert Einstein (B.W.H.); and Mendelics Genomic Analysis (F.K.), São Paulo, Brazil.

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Correspondence to Dr. Pedroso: jlpedroso.neuro@gmail.com
