

Acknowledgment

We thank Dean G. Tang and Jia Liu for linguistic assistance during the preparation of this manuscript.

This work was supported by grants from the National Natural Science Foundation of China (grant no. 81602255).

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Dr. Jin and Dr. Tong graduated from Tongji Medical College, Huazhong University of Science and Technology in China. While completing this work, they are working in the COVID-19 isolation ward of Tongji Medical College's Union Hospital. Their primary research interests are infectious diseases.

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etymologia

Rhabdomyolysis [rab"do-mi-ol'ə-sis]

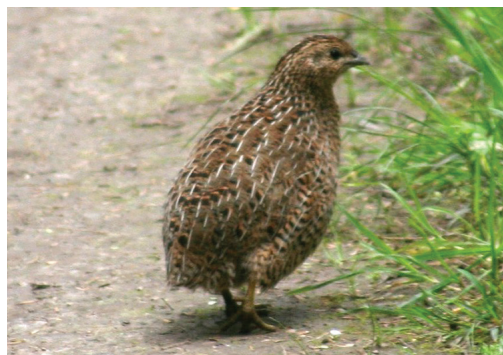
Ronnie Henry¹

From the Greek rhabdos (“rod”) + mus (“muscle”) + lysis (“loosening”), rhabdomyolysis refers to the rapid breakdown of skeletal (striated) muscle, releasing myoglobin into the blood, which can lead to kidney failure. In the Book of Numbers in the Bible, the Israelites grew tired of eating manna. They demanded that God send them meat. God, angry at their insolence, sent them quail but then strikes those who ate the meat with a plague (Numbers 11:31–35). This may have been an early account of rhabdomyolysis, since migrating quail eat large amounts of hemlock, a known cause of rhabdomyolysis.

¹Deceased.

Sources

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Brown quail (*Coturnix ypsilophora*) by Duncan Wright, own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=2998176>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3201/eid2607.ET2607>