

Figure 2-14. Warm water in the right ear causes shift of endolymph toward the ampulla, thereby increasing the vestibular tone and resulting in a slow movement of the eyes to the left side. The compensatory fast phase will be directed back to the right side.

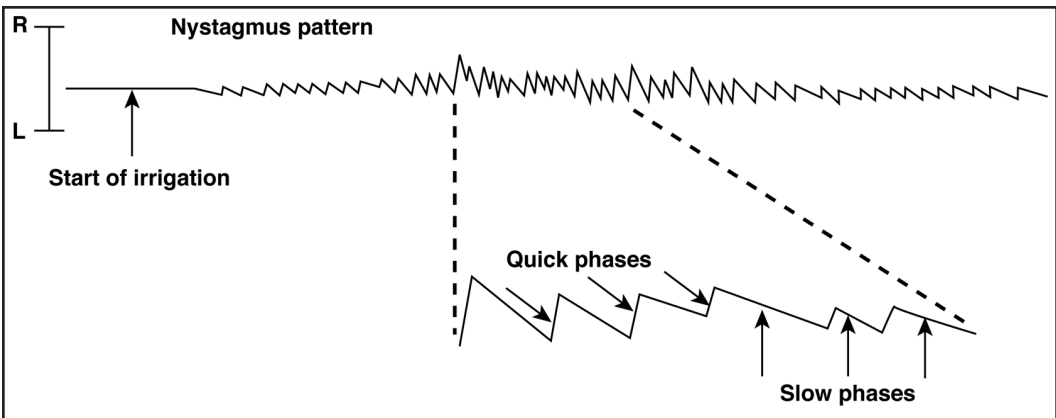


Figure 2-15. Caloric nystagmus. Horizontal eye position as a function of time in response to irrigation of the right EAC with warm (44°C) water. The temperature gradient set up across the horizontal semicircular canal in the presence of gravity leads to a convection current that causes a deflection of the cupula in the excitatory direction. The resulting nystagmus has leftward slow phases and rightward quick phases. Nystagmus intensity increases as the temperature gradient builds up and then dissipates. The maximum slow-phase velocity for each irrigation is recorded and the responses between the 2 ears are compared for symmetry.