Nine patients had been previously diagnosed and surgically treated as "thoracic outlet syndrome". The source of pain was cervical nerve root contusion in 4, cervical spondylosis in 2, RSD of disuse in 2, and ephaptic RSD of forearm in 1. Thermography showed RSD changes in all 9 patients. By virtue of muscle spasm involving deltoid, pectoralis, and scalenus muscles, RSD can clinically mimic thoracic outlet syndrome.

RSD causes TMJ disease and vice versa. The two usually coexist. Injections or operation for TMJ disease due to RSD aggravates the condition.