Teaching Video NeuroImages: Reading epilepsy

A seizure in a thousand words (or less)

Jeremy K. Gregory, MD
Eileen M. Broomall, MD

Correspondence to
Dr. Gregory:
gregory.jeremy@mayo.edu

Figure Reading epilepsy captured on video EEG

Interictal EEG was normal during wakefulness and showed frequent midline central spikes during sleep. Reading precipitated frequent clonic jerks of the lower jaw, during which EEG showed generalized discharges maximal over the midline/left central head region. Jaw jerking appeared after 15 seconds of reading and was followed by a secondary generalized tonic-clonic seizure.

A 14-year-old right-handed boy developed spells of lip twitching only while reading. With prolonged reading, he occasionally experienced loss of awareness and limb jerking (figure and video on the *Neurology*[®] Web site at www.neurology.org). Reading epilepsy is a rare form of reflex seizure in which reading (silently or aloud) may trigger orofacial myoclonus, stammering, aphasia, or generalized convulsions. Onset is typically in early adulthood, with 2:1 male predominance. It occurs in isolation or autosomal dominant fashion.¹ Previous reports suggest efficacy of clonazepam, valproate, or levetiracetam.² Our patient did not tolerate levetiracetam but remains seizure-free on oxcarbazepine. Reading epilepsy should be recognized and promptly treated to avoid unnecessary academic struggles.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Dr. Gregory contributed to acquisition of data and drafting/revising the manuscript for content. Dr. Broomall contributed to analysis of data and drafting/revising the manuscript for content.

STUDY FUNDING

No targeted funding reported.

DISCLOSURE

J. Gregory is a member of the *Neurology*[®] Resident & Fellow Section editorial team. E. Broomall reports no disclosures. Go to Neurology.org for full disclosures.

REFERENCES

1. Miller S, Razvi S, Russell A. Reading epilepsy. *Pract Neurol* 2010;10:278–281.
2. Haykal MA, El-Feki A, Sonmez Turk HH, Abou-Khalil BW. New observations in primary and secondary reading epilepsy: excellent response to levetiracetam and early spontaneous remission. *Epilepsy Behav* 2012;23:466–470.

Download teaching slides:
www.neurology.org

Supplemental data at
www.neurology.org

From the Department of Neurology (J.K.G.) and Division of Child and Adolescent Neurology (E.M.B.), Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

Neurology®

Teaching Video *NeuroImages*: Reading epilepsy: A seizure in a thousand words (or less)

Jeremy K. Gregory and Eileen M. Broomall

Neurology 2013;81:e100

DOI 10.1212/WNL.0b013e3182a55fcb

This information is current as of September 23, 2013

Updated Information & Services	including high resolution figures, can be found at: http://n.neurology.org/content/81/13/e100.full
Supplementary Material	Supplementary material can be found at: http://n.neurology.org/content/suppl/2013/09/21/81.13.e100.DC1 http://n.neurology.org/content/suppl/2013/09/21/81.13.e100.DC2
References	This article cites 2 articles, 1 of which you can access for free at: http://n.neurology.org/content/81/13/e100.full#ref-list-1
Subspecialty Collections	This article, along with others on similar topics, appears in the following collection(s): All Epilepsy/Seizures http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/all_epilepsy_seizures EEG http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/eeg_ Epilepsy semiology http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/epilepsy_semiology Video/ EEG use in epilepsy http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/video__eeg_use_in_epilepsy
Permissions & Licensing	Information about reproducing this article in parts (figures,tables) or in its entirety can be found online at: http://www.neurology.org/about/about_the_journal#permissions
Reprints	Information about ordering reprints can be found online: http://n.neurology.org/subscribers/advertise

Neurology® is the official journal of the American Academy of Neurology. Published continuously since 1951, it is now a weekly with 48 issues per year. Copyright © 2013 American Academy of Neurology. All rights reserved. Print ISSN: 0028-3878. Online ISSN: 1526-632X.