Ictal water-seeking in nondominant temporal lobe seizures

Figure Brain MRI and EEG findings

Brain MRI (A), axial fluid-attenuated inversion recovery, and (B) coronal T2 showing mild right hippocampal atrophy, and (C) EEG showing a right temporal lobe seizure.

A 40-year-old woman with complex partial seizures and right hippocampal atrophy (figure, A and B) had persistent seizures after epilepsy surgery. One of her seizures is shown in the video on the *Neurology*[®] Web site at Neurology.org. She pushes the event button during the aura (rising epigastric sensation), rubs her mouth, reaches for water, and holds onto it through the seizure.

Peri-ictal water-seeking may localize to the nondominant temporal lobe based on the idea that temporal epileptiform discharges spread to hypothalamus causing thirst.¹ Patients with nondominant temporal lobe epilepsy are more often able to react to external stimuli; they may react to the unpleasant feeling of thirst by water-seeking.² Peri-ictal water-seeking is a stereotyped behavior associated with nondominant temporal lobe epilepsy but was not consistently seen in all seizures experienced by our patient.

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Supplemental data
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