A 39-year-old woman underwent epilepsy monitoring for differential diagnosis. During video EEG, a reproducible, time-synched, bilateral 5-Hz frontocentral theta rhythm was present while text messaging on her smartphone (figure A). This pattern appeared only with active texting (figure B).

The texting rhythm is a recently recognized EEG pattern reported in up to 22.6%–24.5% of adults. It is related to cortical processing associated with personal electronic devices.

From the Department of Neurology (B.H.), University of Rochester Medical Center, NY; and Department of Neurology (W.O.T.), Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, FL.

Go to Neurology.org/N for full disclosures. Funding information and disclosures deemed relevant by the authors, if any, are provided at the end of the article.
Brief durations occur with abbreviated texting as brief as several seconds. Electroencephalographers need to be aware of this novel waveform to distinguish it from an abnormal epileptiform pattern or evidence of cerebral dysfunction.

**Study funding**
No targeted funding reported.

**Disclosure**
The authors report no disclosures relevant to the manuscript. Go to Neurology.org/N for full disclosures.

### References

### Appendix
**Authors**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Contribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brian Hanrahan, MD</td>
<td>University of Rochester Medical Center, NY</td>
<td>Identified case study patient for manuscript and drafting of the manuscript</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William O. Tatum, DO</td>
<td>Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, FL</td>
<td>Drafting and revision of the manuscript</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Copyright © 2020 American Academy of Neurology. Unauthorized reproduction of this article is prohibited.
Teaching NeuroImages: Texting rhythm: A common EEG finding in the era of smartphone use
Brian Hanrahan and William O. Tatum IV
Neurology 2020;95;e3454-e3455 Published Online before print September 4, 2020
DOI 10.1212/WNL.0000000000010757

This information is current as of September 4, 2020

Updated Information & Services
including high resolution figures, can be found at:
http://n.neurology.org/content/95/24/e3454.full

References
This article cites 2 articles, 0 of which you can access for free at:
http://n.neurology.org/content/95/24/e3454.full#ref-list-1

Citations
This article has been cited by 1 HighWire-hosted articles:
http://n.neurology.org/content/95/24/e3454.full##otherarticles

Subspecialty Collections
This article, along with others on similar topics, appears in the following collection(s):
EEG
http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/eeg
EEG; see Epilepsy/Seizures
http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/eeg_see_epilepsy-seizures
Epilepsy monitoring
http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/epilepsy_monitoring_
Other Education
http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/other_education
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