Teaching Video Neuroimages: Ictal Unilateral Eye Blinking in Temporal Lobe Seizures

An Illustrative Video Case

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Figure Postictal EEG Showing Right Posterior Quadrant Slowing

Postictal EEG recorded in the drowsy state shows right posterior quadrant intermittent delta-theta slowing (black rectangle). A well-formed posterior dominant rhythm of 8–9 Hz can be seen on the left. Excessive diffuse beta activity is likely related to recent administration of benzodiazepines. (A) Bipolar montage. (B) The same EEG page in Laplacian montage.

A 6-year-old girl presented with several months of intermittent “bad smells” and “bad thoughts” and one prior episode where she was found unresponsive, making strange noises, with urinary incontinence, and left Todd paralysis. At current presentation, she had her typical aura, followed by staring and lip smacking and this time by rhythmic right eye blinking and right hand automatisms (video 1). Postictal EEG showed focal right posterior quadrant slowing (figure). Unilateral blinking is a rare ictal phenomenon usually associated with an ipsilateral frontotemporal seizure focus,^{1,2}

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which in this case is right-hemispheric. The patient's MRI was normal and the seizures were controlled by oxcarbazepine.

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Appendix *(continued)*

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