



Case report

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Reversible MRI Changes in the Splenium Related to Recent Cessation of Antiepileptic Medications

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Case

A 21-year-old male with history of refractory epilepsy presented for long-term video EEG monitoring. His home antiepileptic medications were weaned off over a seven-day period. On hospital day 4, he had a right temporal electro clinical seizure with secondary generalization and a second right temporal electrographic seizure. On hospital day 8, MRI brain identified an ovoid circumscribed lesion in the splenium of the corpus callosum which had not been present on prior scans (Figure 1). This characteristic lesion is thought to be induced by a rapid reduction of antiepileptic drugs, not with toxic drug effects or seizure frequency. It requires no further investigation [1].

References

- Gürtler S, Ebner A, Tuxhorn I, et al. (2005) Transient lesion in the splenium of the corpus callosum and antiepileptic drug withdrawal. *Neurology* 65: 1032-1036.

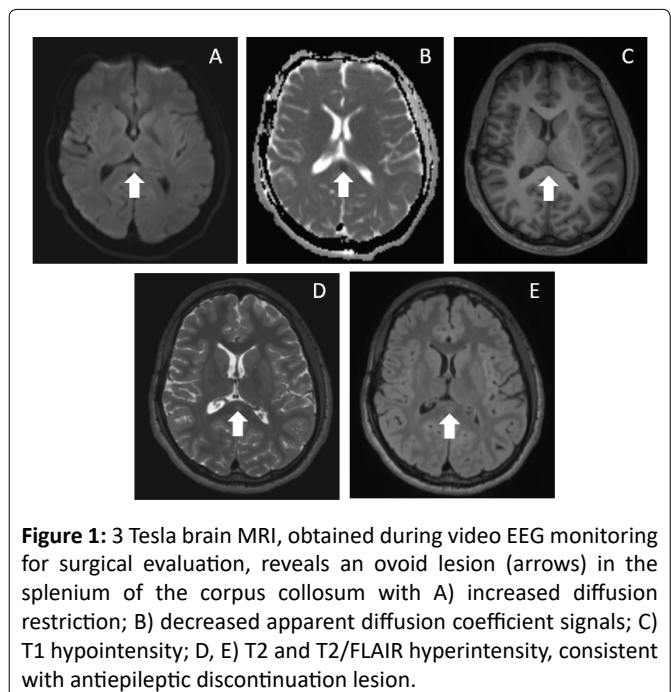


Figure 1: 3 Tesla brain MRI, obtained during video EEG monitoring for surgical evaluation, reveals an ovoid lesion (arrows) in the splenium of the corpus callosum with A) increased diffusion restriction; B) decreased apparent diffusion coefficient signals; C) T1 hypointensity; D, E) T2 and T2/FLAIR hyperintensity, consistent with antiepileptic discontinuation lesion.

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