

Epilepsy monitoring

Ictal and postictal testing carried out in long-term [epilepsy](#) monitoring units is often sub-optimal. Recently, a European consensus [protocol](#) for testing patients during and after seizures was developed by a joint [task force](#) of the [International League Against Epilepsy](#) - Commission on European Affairs and the European Epilepsy Monitoring Unit Association.

Using this recently developed standardised assessment battery as a framework, the goal of this narrative review is to outline the proposed testing procedure in detail and explain the rationale for each individual component, focusing on the underlying neurobiology. This is intended to serve as an educational resource for staff working in epilepsy monitoring units.

A literature review of PubMed was performed; using the search terms “[seizure](#)”, “[ictal](#)”, “[postictal](#)”, “[testing](#)”, “[examination](#)”, and “[interview](#)”. Relevant literature was reviewed and relevant references were chosen. The work is presented as a narrative review.

The proposed standardised assessment battery provides a comprehensive and user-friendly format for ictal-postictal testing, and examines consciousness, language, motor, sensory, and visual function.

The standardised approach proposed has the potential to make full use of data recorded during [video EEG](#) increasing the diagnostic yield with regards to lateralisation and localisation, aiding both presurgical and diagnostic studies ¹⁾.

¹⁾

Kinney MO, Kovac S, Diehl B. Structured testing during seizures: A practical guide for assessing and interpreting ictal and postictal signs during video EEG long term monitoring. *Seizure*. 2019 Aug 31;72:13-22. doi: 10.1016/j.seizure.2019.08.008. [Epub ahead of print] Review. PubMed PMID: 31546090.

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