

Small temporal pole encephalocele

Small temporal pole [encephalocele](#) (STPE) can be the pathologic substrate of epilepsy in a subgroup of patients with noninformative magnetic resonance imaging (MRI).

Toledano et al analyzed the clinical, neurophysiologic, and radiologic features of the epilepsy found in 22 patients with STPE, and the frequency of STPE in patients with [refractory focal epilepsy](#) (RFE).

They performed an [observational study](#) of all patients with STPE identified at the epilepsy unit from January 2007 to December 2014. Cases were detected through a systematic search of our database of RFE patients evaluated for surgery, and a prospective collection of patients identified at the outpatient clinic. The RFE database was also employed to analyze the frequency of STPE among the different clinical subgroups.

They identified 22 patients with STPE (11 women), including 12 (4.0%) of 303 patients from the RFE database, and 10 from the outpatient clinic. The median age was 51.5 years (range 29-75) and the median age at seizure onset was 38.5 years (range 15-73). Typically, 12 (80%) of 15 patients with left STPE reported seizures with impairment of language. Among the RFE cases, STPE were found in 9.6% of patients with [temporal lobe epilepsy](#) (TLE), and in 0.5% of those with extra-TLE ($p = 0.0001$). STPEs were more frequent in TLE patients with an initial MRI study reported as normal (23.3%) than in those with MRI-visible lesions (1.4%; $p = 0.0002$). [Stereoelectroencephalography](#) was performed in four patients, confirming the localization of the [epileptogenic zone](#) at the temporal pole with late participation of the hippocampus. Long-term seizure control was achieved in four of five operated patients.

STPE can be a hidden cause of TLE in a subgroup of patients with an initial report of “normal” MRI. Early identification of this lesion may help to select patients for presurgical evaluation and tailored resection ¹⁾.

¹⁾

Toledano R, Jiménez-Huete A, Campo P, Poch C, García-Morales I, Gómez Angulo JC, Coras R, Blümcke I, Álvarez-Linera J, Gil-Nagel A. Small temporal pole encephalocele: A hidden cause of “normal” MRI temporal lobe epilepsy. *Epilepsia*. 2016 Mar 28. doi: 10.1111/epi.13371. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 27020612.

From:

<https://neurosurgerywiki.com/wiki/> - **Neurosurgery Wiki**

Permanent link:

https://neurosurgerywiki.com/wiki/doku.php?id=small_temporal_pole_encephalocele

Last update: **2024/06/07 02:53**

