

# Super refractory status epilepticus

Super refractory status epilepticus (SRSE) is defined as [status epilepticus](#) (SE) that continues or recurs 24h or more after the onset of anesthetic therapy.

Kantanen et al. analyzed retrospectively the Finnish Intensive Care Consortium database in order to identify adult patients with SRSE treated in ICUs in Finland during a three-year period (2010-2012). The database consists of admissions to all 20 Finnish hospitals treating refractory SE (RSE) with general anesthesia in the intensive care unit (ICU). We included consecutive adult (16 years or older) patients with RSE and identified those who had SRSE. Patients with postanoxic etiologies were excluded.

All five university hospitals and 10/15 of the central hospitals participated. The adult referral population of the study hospitals is 3.9 million, representing 91% of the total adult population of Finland. We identified 395 patients with ICU-treated RSE, 87 (22%) of whom were classified as having SRSE. This corresponds to an annual incidence of SRSE of 0.7/100,000 (95% confidence interval [CI]: 0.6-0.9). The one-year mortality rates were 36% (95% CI: 26-46%) for patients with SRSE and 22% (95% CI: 17-27%) for patients with RSE. Mortality was highest (63%) in patients with SRSE aged over 75 years.

Approximately 20% of patients with RSE treated in Finnish ICUs progressed to having SRSE. The incidence of SRSE, 0.7/100,000, is about 5-10% of the incidence of SE. The mortality of patients with SRSE, 36%, was comparable to earlier studies and twofold higher than the mortality of patients with RSE. This article is part of a Special Issue entitled "Status Epilepticus"<sup>1)</sup>.

## Treatment

[Super refractory status epilepticus treatment.](#)

## Case reports

Vasquez A, Miller KJ, Youssef PE, Selcen D, Patterson MC, Starnes K. A case report of hemimegalencephaly with super-refractory status epilepticus and brain atrophy associated with NPRL3 gene mutation. *Seizure*. 2023 Feb 11:S1059-1311(23)00051-1. doi: 10.1016/j.seizure.2023.02.010. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 36842889.

<sup>1)</sup>

Kantanen AM, Reinikainen M, Parviainen I, Ruokonen E, Ala-Peijari M, Bäcklund T, Koskenkari J, Laitio R, Kälviäinen R. Incidence and mortality of super-refractory status epilepticus in adults. *Epilepsy Behav*. 2015 Aug;49:131-4. doi: 10.1016/j.yebeh.2015.04.065. Epub 2015 Jul 2. PubMed PMID: 26141934.

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