A case of post-leptospirosis autoimmune epilepsy presenting with sleep-related hypermotor seizures

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Epileptic Disorders

- Neurological involvement in Leptospirosis is uncommon (10-15% cases), usually seen in the post-leptospiremic phase of illness.

- Neuroleptospirosis has a varied presentation, with aseptic meningitis being the most common form.

- The pathogenesis of neurological involvement is considered to be immune-mediated.

- SHE is a rare form of focal epilepsy. Symptomatic drug-resistant cases are mostly secondary to FCD type II; type IIb in particular is associated with SHE.

- Typically, the seizures are abrupt with regards to onset and termination, brief (<2min) , stereotyped, with hypermotor events , and commonly occur in clusters.

- Interictal EEG, and sometimes even the ictal EEG, may be uninformative. In such cases, semiology of the video-taped events provides the clue.

- Autoimmune encephalitis usually presents as a cluster of cognitive and behavioural symptoms, epilepsy, and movement disorders, but may rarely present as a pure epilepsy syndrome.

- Defined autoantibodies may not be necessarily present in all cases.

- Post-infectious occurrence of frequent seizures, which poorly respond to AEDs, warrants early consideration of immunotherapy.