

Exceptional response to brivaracetam in a patient with refractory idiopathic generalized epilepsy and absence seizures

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- Despite the wide range of AEDs available on the market, a significant percentage of patients fail to achieve satisfactory control of epileptic seizures → we need new well-tolerated AEDs that may be easily added to normal treatment for patients with uncontrolled or refractory seizures.
- Brivaracetam (BRV), a 4-n-propyl analogue of levetiracetam, is the most recently marketed antiepileptic drug.
- This novel synaptic vesicle glycoprotein 2A (SV2A) ligand displays 10 to 30 times greater affinity to this integral transmembrane glycoprotein than its precursor.

- BRV is currently indicated as adjunctive therapy for patients with focal-onset seizures with or without secondary generalization. Nonetheless, evidence suggests that BRV may be an AED with broad-spectrum efficacy.
- We present the case of a patient with refractory idiopathic generalized epilepsy whose absence seizures improved considerably in terms of frequency and intensity after starting treatment with BRV.
- Our report supports a consideration of treatment with this new antiepileptic drug on a case-by-case basis in patients with refractory generalized epilepsy, while we await further studies on this topic.