

Title: Posterior reversible encephalopathy syndrome presenting as focal seizure disorder.

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Abstract:

Posterior reversible encephalopathy syndrome (also known as reversible posterior leukoencephalopathy syndrome) is a relatively common condition with a multitude of risk factors, the most notable of which is hypertension. Much debate has occurred regarding the naming of this entity as it is neither universally reversible nor isolated to the posterior circulation. This case adds to the naming challenge by bringing the encephalopathy component into question as well. The case presented is a twenty nine year-old woman who presented for evaluation of seizure activity, which was not clinically apparent, and was only revealed by EEG recording showing electrographic seizure from the occipital lobe that likely caused the visual phenomena that she reported, with an MRI showing a non-specific T2 FLAIR hyperintense signal in the corresponding area. After an initial diagnosis of seizure disorder, she presented to the hospital a second time with similar complaints, different areas of seizure activity on EEG and imaging consistent with posterior reversible encephalopathy syndrome. In conclusion, posterior reversible encephalopathy syndrome has a prototypical presentation of mental status changes, often with headache, and visual changes in the setting of elevated blood pressure. However, there are a myriad of presentations to this syndrome and it is possible for a patient to present with focal onset seizure activity as the only presenting symptom, and imaging studies are key to the diagnosis.