Status epilepticus

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Disclosure

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Scope

- Definition/Classification
- Pathophysiology
- Treatment strategies

Introduction

- SE is a common neurological emergency
- Incidence 10-41 (adult) and 17-23 (children): 100000
- Thai: adult 5.1:100000 (Tiamkao S, et al. Inter j Neuroscience 2014;124:416-20)
- 45-74% of SE is generalized convulsive SE
- Mortality 20% in adult and 0.9-3.6% in children (FSE)
- Up to 50% occurred in patients without epilepsy

Introduction

- The longer a seizure lasts, the less likely it is to stop seizure
 - Convulsive seizure that lasted > 5 min has a strong tendency to last > 30 minutes (point of non-compensating physiologic changes
- Treatment protocols should be targeted to stop seizure rapidly

Definition of SE

- A failure of the mechanisms responsible for seizure termination or from the initiation of mechanisms which lead to
- 1. Abnormally prolonged seizures (after time point t1).
- 2. Long-term consequences (after time point t2)
 - Neuronal death, neuronal injury, and alteration of neuronal networks

Progression of one seizure

Prolonged Seizures with Seizure seizure consequences

most seizures last no more than 1-2 min

- Seizure lasts more than 5 min tends to evolve to status epilepticus

- Not risk to cerebral damage

- Evidences of irreversible neuronal injury

Operation dimension with T1 and T2

Type of SE	T1	T2
Tonic-clonic SE	5 min	30 min
Focal SE with impaired consciousness	10 min	> 60 min
Absence SE	10-15 min*	Unknown

^{*} Evidence for the time frame is currently limited

Classification

(A) with prominent motor symptoms

- Convulsive SE (GSE, Focal, unknown)
- Myoclonic SE (with or without coma)
- Focal motor SE (Jacksonian, EPC, Adversive, Oculoclonic, ictal paresis)
- Tonic SE
- Hyperkinetic SE

(B) without prominent motor symptoms (NCSE)

- NCSE with coma
- NCSE without coma
 - Generalized (absence, atypical absence, myoclonic absence)
 - Focal (without impairment of consciousness, aphasic status, with impaired consciousness)
 - Unknown (autonomic SE)

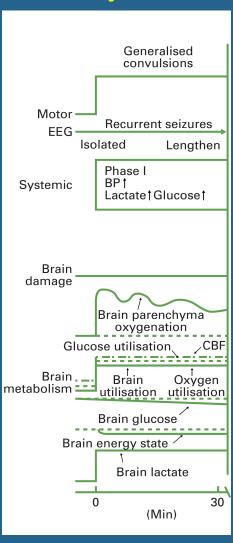
Nonconvulsive SE: Salzburg EEG consensus criteria

- Patients without known epileptic encephalopathy
 - ED > 2.5 Hz, or
 - ED ≤ 2.5 Hz or rhythmic delta/theta activity (>0.5 Hz) with 1 of the following
 - EEG and clinical improvement after IV AED or
 - Subtle clinical ictal phenomena or
 - Typical spatiotemporal evolution
- Patients with known epileptic encephalopathy
 - Increase inprominence of frequency when compared to baseline with observable change in clinical state
 - Improvement of clinical and EEG features with AEDs

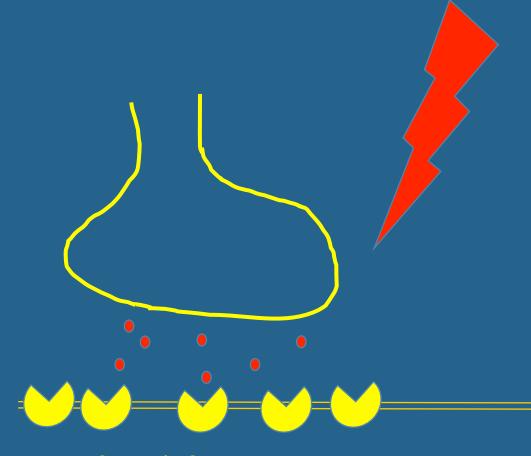
Pathophysiology

- CSE is a dynamic process
- Clinical seizure:
 - overt CSE to subtle to NCSE
- EEG: changes of EEG
 - GSE to NCSE
- Body physiology:
 - compensatory to failure of compensatory mechanism
 - Hyperthermia, hypotension, hypoglycemia, acidosis

Physiology changes in status epilepticus



- Phase 1 Compensation
 - Physiologic changes to supply incrasing demand
- Phase 2 Decompensation
 - Failure of compensation result in altered cerebral and systemic metabolic pattern



GABA_A R



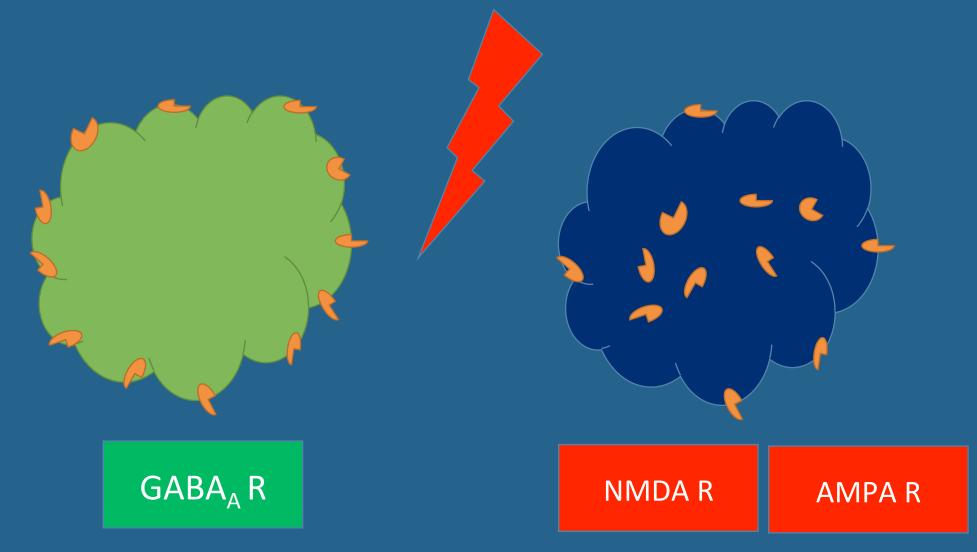
Synaptic GABA_A receptors

Extra-synaptic GABA_A receptors

Augmentation of extra-synaptic GABA_A R

Interanalization of GABA_A R

Redistribution of neurotransmitter in SE



Receptor changes

- Internalization of synaptic GABA receptor
 - Decrease by 50% of functional R/synapse in 1 hr. after SE
- NMDA R accumulate in the synapse
 - Increase in 38% of functional NMDA R/synapse in 1 hr. after SE
- Increase GluA2-lacking AMPA R in the membrane
- Tonic current augmentation of extra-synaptic GABA_A

Brain pathology

- Cerebral hypoxia along with hyperthermia, hypotension, hypoglycemia, and acidosis contribute to CNS pathology
- Cortex, cerebellar and hippocampus
- HS is believed to be both cause and sequence of SE
- In NCSE, neuronal injury still occur but less severe

Scope

- Introduction
- Definition/Classification
- Pathophysiology
- Treatment strategies

Treatment strategies

- 1. Emergency medical management (ABC)
- 2. Terminate and prevent further seizure
 - Important predictor to other complications (ET, ICU, Deaths)
- 3. Find the cause
 - Important issues
 - In many cases, this is the key to control seizure
- 4. Prevent and treat complications

Emergency medical treatment

- ABC
- Initial labs (POCT, CBC, electrolyte, AED level, etc..)
- Rapid IV access
- AED

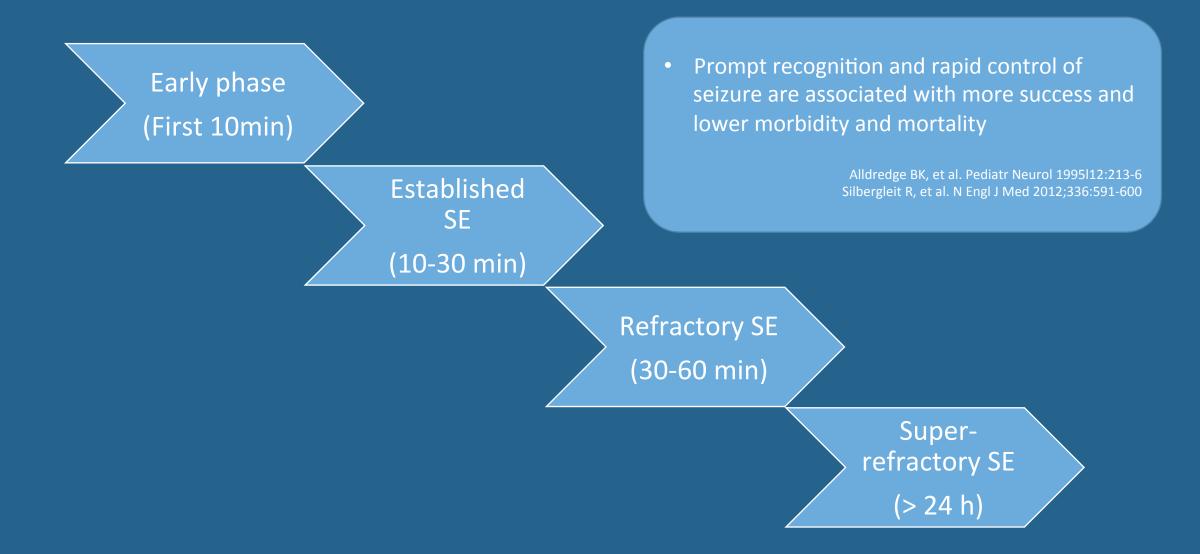
Treatment strategies

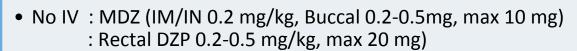
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- 3. Find the cause
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 - In many cases, this is the key to control seizure
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Ideal AEDs for SE

- Ease of administration
- Rapid onset of action
- Adequate but not prolonged duration of pharmacodynamic activity
- Broad spectrum
- Minimal side effects: CVS, CNS
- Useful as maintenance
- IV solution compatibility
- COST

Timeline-based treatment





60%

Early SE (10 min) • IV : DZP (0.15-0.2 mg/kg, max 10 mg)

Established

• IV FosPHT 20 mgPE/kg (max 1500 mgPE, repeat 5-10 mg/kg if needed)

• PHT 20 mg/kg (max 1500 mg, repeat 5-10 mg/kg if needed)

• IV LEV 30-60 mg/kg (max 4500 mg, repeat 30 mg/kg if needed

• IV VPA 20 mg/kg (max 3000 mg, repeat 20 mg/kg if needed, avoid in mitochondrial disease

• IV PHB 20 mg/kg (may repeat 5-10 mg/kg if needed)



Refractory SE (> 30 min or refractory

to BZD and 1st line AED)

Midazolam 0.2 mg/kg bolus followed by 0.1-2 mg/kg/h
 Pentobarbital 5-15 mg/kg bolus followed by 0.5-5 mg/kg/h
 Thiopental 2-7 mg/kg bolus followed by 0.5-5 mg/kg/h
 Propofol 1-2 mg/kg bolus followed by 2-12 mg/kg/h
 Ketamine 1.54.5 mg/kg bolus followed by 2.75-5 mg/kg/h

Admit ICU with EEG monitor with BS or seizure suppression EEG



Early SE (10 min)

•IV DZP (0.15-0.2 mg/kg, max 10 mg)

No IV Rectal DZP 0.2-0.5 mg/kg, max 20 mg)
 MDZ (IM/IN 0.2 mg/kg, Buccal 0.2-0.5mg, max 10 mg)

Repeat **ONCE** after 5-10 min.

Drug	Pharmacokinetic	Effects	Route	Side effects
DZP	- Highly lipid soluble	Rapid onsetFast redistributionAnticonvulsanteffect 15-30 min	- IV - Rectal	40% propylene glycol and 10% ethanolthrombophlebitis
LZP	- Less lipid soluble than DZP	Less rapidredistributionAnticonvulsanteffect 6-12 h	- IV - Rectal	** Need refrigerated
Midazolam	*water soluble	Ultra-short half-lifeNeed continuousinfusion	- IV - IM - IN, buccal	- No PPG

Route

- IV access available
 - IV diazepam ≈ IV lorazepam

Chamberlain JM, et al. JAMA 2014;311:1652-60

- Non-IV access
 - IM and IN midazolam are efficacious
 - Rectal diazepam is also effective but less socially acceptable

Arya R, et al. Neurology 2015;85:1859-68

Brigo F, et al. Epilepsy Behav 2015;49:325-36

Cautions & Pitfalls

Timing

- Given early is associated with good response
- Potency decrease 20-fold over 30 min of SE (GABA internalization)

Pitfalls

- Dosage
 - Suboptimal dose (20-70%) has less efficacy
 - Irrespective of initial BZD dose, respiratory failure increase after > 2 dose
- Accumulation dose
 - More than 2 doses (25-50%) was associated with
 - Respiratory compromised 43% VS 13%
 - Third dose of BZP resulted in seizure termination in 13%

Established SE

Established SE (10-30 min)

• IV FosPHT 20 mg/kg

PHT 20 mgPE/kg

• IV LEV 30-60 mg/kg

• IV VPA 20 mg/kg

• IV PHB 20 mg/kg

(max 1500 mgPE, repeat 5-10 mg/kg if needed

(max 1500 mg, repeat 5-10 mg/kg if needed)

(max 4500 mg, repeat 30 mg/kg if needed

(max 3000 mg, repeat 20 mg/kg if needed, avoid in mt. disease)

(may repeat 5-10 mg/kg if needed)

2nd line Therapy

- 40% of patients with CSE reach this stage
- AES: 2nd line AED should be given when
 - Fail BZD has failed and
 - Duration > 20 min
- Other
 - If seizure > 10 min (preceded by BZD)

	Dose	Rate	Advantage
Phyenytoin (Fosphenytoin)	15-20 mg/kg	1 mg/kg/min	- Broad spectrum - Widely available
fosphenytoin	15-20 mgPE/kg	2 mgPE/kg/min	- Less side effects
Valproate	20-40 mg/kg	5-10 mg/kg/min	- Broad spectrum AED
Levetiracetam	40-60 mg/kg	6-8 mg/kg/min	- Minimum drug interaction
Phenobarbital	20 mg/kg	1-2 mg/kg/min	- High rate of success

Drug	Pharmacokinetic	Route	Effects
PHT	High pH 12Insoluble in water40% propylene glycol and 10% ethanol	IV (sugar free)Slow infusion	Risk of thrombophlebitisPurple-glove syndromeHypotension and cardiac arrhythmia
Fos-PHT	 Aqueous form pH 8.6-9 Conversion rate not affected by age, hepatic or other drug 	- IV - IM	 Level attained in 10-30 min after infusion (150 - <100 mg PE/min) Peak 30 min IV or 3 hr IM Fewer local adverse side effects Hypotension and cardiac arrhythmia
VPA	Liver metabolizeHepatic failure	- IV	 Contraindicate in liver or patients with inborn error of metabolism Broad spectrum AED
LEV	Metabolized through hydrolysisNOT cytochromeRenal excretion	- IV	- No known drug interaction
РНВ	High alkalineLess lipid soluble than DZPProlonged half-life	- IV	Prolonged sedation, respiratory depressionHypotension, immune dysregulation

Meta-analysis of 2nd AED in BZD-resistant SE

• VPA	75.7%
V I / \	

• PHB 73.6%

• LEV 68.5%

• PHT (fosPHT) 50.2%

Prospective clinical trials for 2nd AED in CSE

• ECLIPSE (LEV VS PHT for 2nd-line treatment of paediatric convulsive status epilepticus)

• ConSEPT (LEV VS PHT for 2nd –line treatment of convulsive status epilepticus in children)

• ESETT (Established Status Epilepticus Treatment Trial)

• ESETT with more children recruited

ECLIPSE (LEV VS PHT for second-line treatment of paediatric convulsive status epilepticus)

- Open-label, randomized clinical trial
- Child 6mo. 18 yr. with CSE requiring 2nd treatment
- LEV: 40 mg/kg over 5 min
- PHT: 20 mg/kg over at least 20 min
- Primary endpoint
 - Time from randomization to cessation of CSE
- Of 1432 patients, 286 were included in the study (including patients taking PHT or LEV)

286 patients

ECLIPSE (LEV VS PHT for second-line treatment of paediatric convusive status epilepticus)

LEV (152)

- **Cessation rate**
 - 70%
- Median time from random to seizure cessation
 - 35 min
 - IQR 20
- Received additional drugs
 - 38%
- Any side effect
 - 12% (including hypotension)

PHT (134)

- Cessation rate
 - 64%
- Median time from random to seizure cessation
 - 45 min
 - IQR 24
- Received additional drugs
 - 37%
- Any side effect
 - 14% (including hypotension, 1/2 serious)

- LEV is not superior to PHT in term of
 - Cessation rate
 - Time taken to terminate convulsion
 - Adverse side effects
 - ****
 - Ease of administration

ConSEPT (LEV VS PHT for 2nd –line treatment of convulsive status epilepticus in children)

- Open-label clinical trial
- Child 3 mo. 6 yr with CSE who failed 1st-line BZP
- LEV: 40 mg/kg over 5 min
- PHT: 20 mg/kg over 20 min
- LEV followed PHT or PHT followed LEV, if seizure continued
- Primary endpoint
 - Clinical cessation of seizure activity 5 min after the complete infusion
- Of 639 patients, 233 were enrolled (excluding patients taking PHT or LEV)

233 patients

Consept (LEV VS PHT for 2nd –line treatment of convulsive status epilepticus in children)

PHT (114)

- Cessation rate after 5 min.
 - 60%
- Maintain seizure control at 2 h
 - 54%
- Received alternate study drug in first 2 h
 - 37%
- Cessation rate after one or both AED
 - 78%

LEV (119)

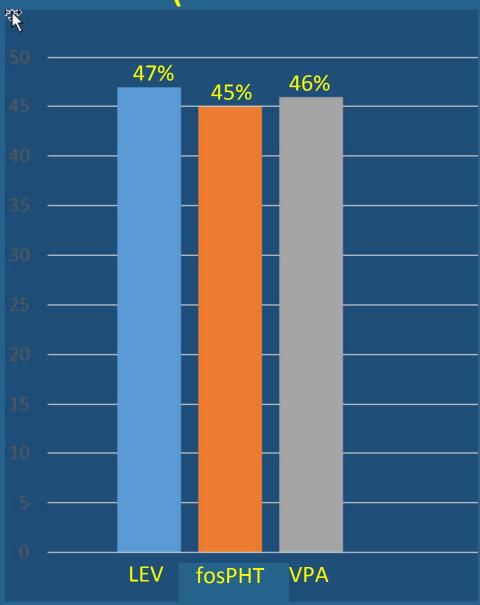
- Cessation rate after 5 min.
 - 50%
- Maintain seizure control at 2 hr.
 - 51%
- Received alternate study drug in first 2 h
 - 40%
- Cessation rate after one or both AED
 - 72%

- LEV is not superior to PHT in term of
 - Cessation rate
 - Adverse side effects
 - Alternate AED reduce failure rate > 50%
 - ****
 - Sequential use of PHT and LEV should be considered before moving to anesthetic drug

ESETT (Established Status Epilepticus Treatment Trial)

- Randomized, blinded, adaptive trial
- Child > 2 yr with accepted BZP dose, with convulsion > 5 min and continue to have after BZP dose
- Assigned to infuse AED in 10 min
- LEV: 60 mg/kg (max 4500 mg)
- fPHT: 20 mgPE/kg (max 1500 mg)
- VPA: 40 mg./kg (max 3000 mg)
- Primary endpoint
 - Absence of clinically apparent seizure and improve in LOC at 60 min after the start of infusion
- 384 were enrolled (LEV, fosPHT, VPA in 145, 118, 121 respectively)

ESETT (Established Status Epilepticus Treatment Trial)



- Three drugs are successful in ~ 50%
- Similar incidence of adverse events
- In numbers
 - fosPHT: hypotension, intubation
 - LEV: deaths

ESETT-

- More children enrollment (76 children VS 2 adults)
- Compare effectiveness and safety among age groups

• Child (<18 yr.) : 225

• Adult (18-65 yr.) : 186

• Older adult (>65 yr.) : 51

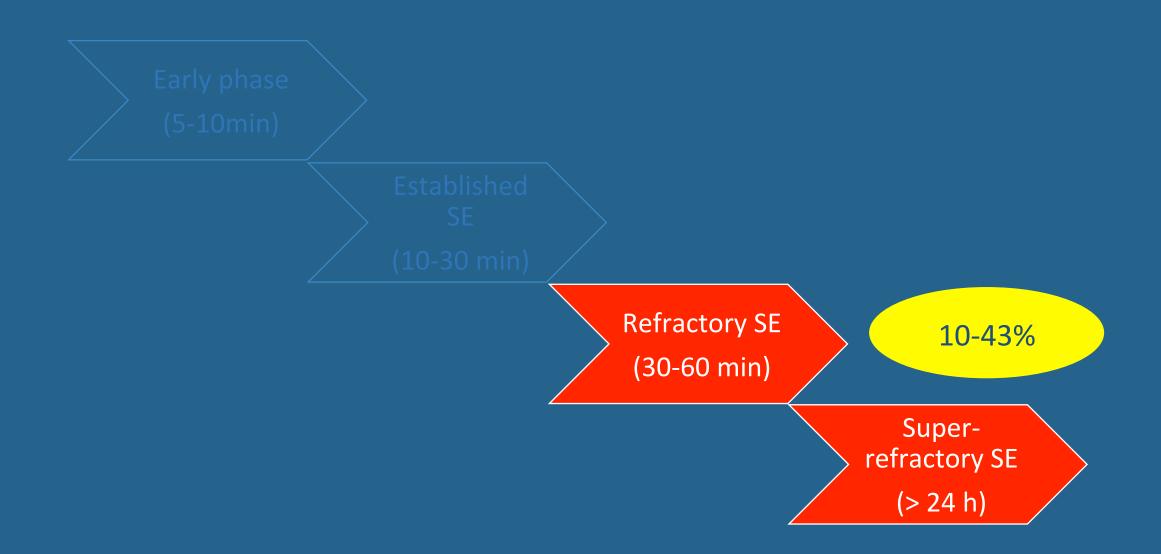
• 38% with LEV, 31% for fosPHT and VPA each

Response rate

	LEV (%, 95% CI)	fosPHT (%, 95% CI)	VPA (%, 95% CI)
Child	52% (41–62)	49% (38–61)	52% (41–63)
Adult	44% (33–55)	46% (34–59)	46% (34–58)
Older adult	37% (19–59)	35% (17–59)	47% (25–70)

- ≈ half of the patients respond to LEV, fosPHT, VPA
- No different in effectiveness and safety among age groups
- Hypotension and ET tube was higher in fosPHT group

Timeline-based treatment



RSE and SRSE

- RSE occur in 10-43% of all cases of SE
- Risks:
 - Lower level of consciousness
 - New diagnosis of epilepsy
 - Focal seizure
 - NCSE

Definition

- RSE
 - No consensus in terms of
 - Number of drugs (BZD+1/2/3 AEDS)
 - Duration of seizure (none, 1/2/3 hr.)

RSE

 Ongoing seizures despite two appropriately selected and dosed antiepileptic drugs (AEDs) including a benzodiazepine.

SRSE

 continuous or recurrent seizures lasting 24 h or more following initiation of anesthetic medications, including cases in which seizure control is attained after induction of anesthetic drugs but recurs on weaning the patient off the anesthetic agent

When should IV anesthesia be used?

- Mortality rate of 16-43.5%
- Choices
 - Additional bolus of 2nd-line AED
 - Continuous infusions of anesthetic agents
 - **NO CLEAR guidelines for how to choose between 2 options
- Best practice: when seizures fail to response to BZP and 2nd AED
- In practice, however, IV anesthesia if often administered after the 3rd AED

Others AEDs

- Topiramate
- Lacosamide
- Perampanel
- Brivaracetam
- Clobazam

Topiramate

- Cohort study of 106 patients
- TPM after failing other AED, median 5 AED
- Loading 25-500 mg (median 100 mg)
- Overall success 29/106 (27.4%)
 - RSE 31.8% VS 20% in SRSE
- Other studies success rate 0-100%

Fechner A, et al. Epilepsia 2019;60:2448-2458

Pediatric dose 2-25 mg/kg/d (most 5-10)

Shelton SM, et al. J Pediatr Pharmacol Ther 2014;19:317-324

10 mg/kg/day for 2 days then 5 mg/kg/day

Perry MS, et al. Epilepsia 2006;47:1070-1071

Lacosamide: systematic review

- 552 (486 adults and 36 children)
- Adult: 200-400 mg IV
- Child: 4-10 mg/kg (mean 8 mg/kg)
- Overall success 57% (both CSE and NCSE)
- Better success in focal motor SE (92%)
- SE: dizziness, abnormal vision, diplopia, ataxia

Perampanel

- 52/1319 patients with SE received PER
- Used post BZD, and median of 5 AED ... SRSE
- Median dose 6 mg to 10 mg/day (max)
- Via Oral or NG tube
- Response in 19/52 (36.5%)

PER in RSE and SRSE

- Retrospective study 30 patients
- Success in 5/30 (17%)
- High dose (16-32, median 24) 14, 2/5 success
- Standard dose 16 (2-12)
- Time to response 6-72 hr.
- High dose does not have significant CVS or lab changes

IV anesthesia

- Propofol
- Midazolam
- Barbiturates: thiopental, pentobarbital
- Ketamine

RSE & SRSE

Refractory SE

(> 30 min or refractory to BZD and 1st line AED)

Admit ICU with EEG monitor with BS or seizure suppression EEG

Midazolam 0.2 mg/kg bolus followed by 0.1-2 mg/kg/h
 Pentobarbital 5-15 mg/kg bolus followed by 0.5-5 mg/kg/h
 Thiopental 2-7 mg/kg bolus followed by 0.5-5 mg/kg/h
 Propofol 1-2 mg/kg bolus followed by 2-12 mg/kg/h
 Ketamine 1.5-4.5 mg/kg bolus followed by 2.75-5 mg/kg/h

Anesthetic agents: site of action

• GABA_A:

- Propofol (extrasynaptic GABA_A R)
- Midazolam
- Barbiturates

• NMDA R

- Ketamine (may increase potency of BZP)
- Nitrous oxide
- Xenon

Indication

SE type	Indication of IV anesthesia
GCSE	Failure of a BZP + 1 additional AED
NCSE in coma	Failure of a BZP + 2 additional AED
Focal motor or focal NCSE (with consciousness impairment)	Failure of a BZP + ≥2 additional AED
Epilepsia partialis continua	Consider in patients with a good prognosis if functionally limiting or painful and refractory to BZP + ≥2 additional AED
Absence status epilepticus	Not indicated

Drug	Bolus	Maintenance
Midazolam	0.2 mg/kg	0.1-2 mg/kg/h
Propofol	1-2 mg/kg	2-12 mg/kg/h
Pentobarbital	5-15 mg/kg	0.5-5 mg/kg/h
Thiopental	2-7 mg/kg	0.5-5 mg/kg/h
Ketamine	1.5-4.5 mg/kg	2.75-5 mg/kg/h

Drug (diluents)	Mechanism	Metabolism	Advantage	Adverse reaction
Midazolam	GABA _A agonist	Hepatic	 Fast onset (1-5 min) Short T1/2 (1-6 hr.) (increase with prolonged use) 	HypotensionRespiratory depressionTachyphylaxis with prolonged use
Propofol (lipid emulsion)	GABA _A agonist	Hepatic	UltrafastRapid clearance(increase with prolonged use)	 Hypotension Hypertriglyceridemia PRIS Contraindicate in mitochondrial disease/relative in children
Pentobarbital (propylene glycol)	GABA _A agonist	Hepatic	Higher success rateDecrease break through seizure	 Hypotension CVS and Res. depression Immune suppression Decrease core body temp. Hepatic dysfunction
Ketamine	 NMDA R antagonist *extrasynaptic GABA_A R agonist 	Hepatic	Alternating mechanismRapid onset	HypertensionHallucination

Monitor

- EEG monitoring is very useful in RSE/SRSE patients
- Impact clinical care
- Change in treatment strategies
 - Start-change-discontinuation of drugs

How deep and how long of barbiturate coma

- All should have EEG
- Level of EEG:
 - burst-suppression VS complete suppression?
 - Deeper suppression was associated with fewer relapse
 - Not necessarily to control all epileptiform discharges as isolated epileptiform d/c did not correlate with recurrence
- How long:
 - Most recommend 24-48 hr.
 - But more prolonged (>96 hr.) was with less likely to relapse

Endpoint of treatment

- Burst-suppression
 - reduction in cerebral metabolic activity,
 - often with sustained termination of seizure activity
 - With propofol, thiopental
 - Not differ in mortality and functional outcomes
- Seizure suppression
 - With midazolam

Causes of SE

Acute causes

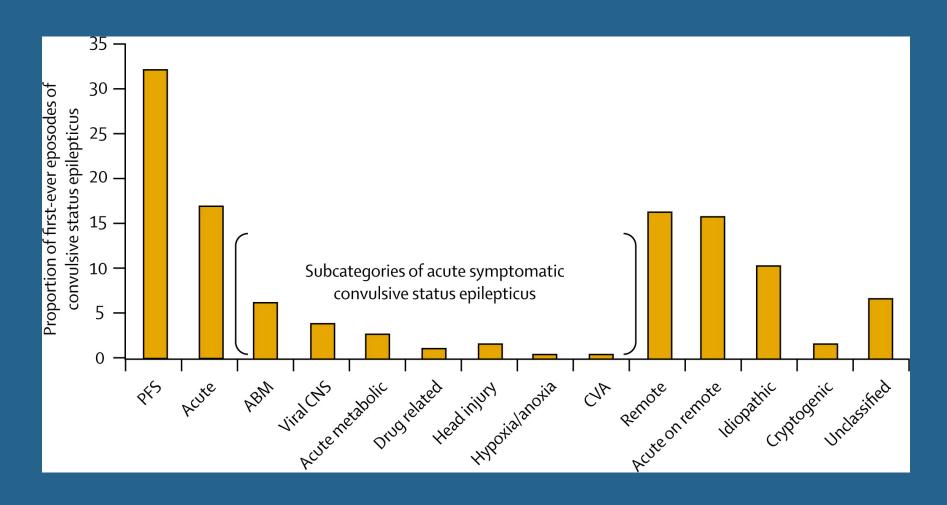
- Stroke
- Trauma
- HIE
- Infection (CNS, sepsis)
- CNS inflammation
- Toxic/metabolic
- Drug/substance withdrawal
- Idiopathic

Chronic causes

- Epilepsy
- Brain tumor
- Previous brain insult

- Febrile seizure status
- IEM

Cause of SE



Treatment strategies

- 1. Emergency medical management (ABC)
- 2. Terminate and prevent further seizure
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Causes of SE

Acute causes

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- Drug/substance withdrawal
- Idiopathic

Chronic causes

- Epilepsy
- Brain tumor
- Previous brain insult

Inflammatory process

• Inflammatory process (infectious and autoimmune) are the cause of SE in 6-12%

Lin CH, et al. Front Neuro 2019;10

Shin JW, et al. J Neuroimmunol. 2018 315:1–8.

Spatola M, et al. Neurology 2015 85:464-70

 Patient with psychosis, NCSE, and SRSE were more common in autoimmune than infectious cause

Lin CH, et al. Front Neuro 2019;10

Definition

NORSE (new onset refractory SE)

 a clinical presentation, not a specific diagnosis, in a patient without active epilepsy or other preexisting relevant neurological disorder, with new onset of refractory status epilepticus without a clear acute or active structural, toxic, or metabolic cause.

FIRES (febrile infection-related epilepsy syndrome)

 a subcategory of NORSE that requires a prior febrile infection, with fever starting between 2 weeks and 24 hours prior to onset of refractory status epilepticus, with or without fever at onset of status epilepticus

NORSE and FIRES

- NORSE and FIRES are clinical presentations rather than a specific diagnosis
 - Viral infection
 - Autoimmune encephalitis
 - Others
- FIRES is a subtype of NORSE

Treatment options

	Cryptogenic FIRES	Cryptogenic NORSE
Steroid (methylprednisolone)	11/63 (17%)	15/40 (38%)
IVIG	5/94 (5%)	5/17 (30%)
KD	19/35 (54%)	8/12 (67%)
PE	2/11 (11%)	6/15 (40)

• Other treatment; hypothermia, Rituximab, Cannabis,







Brain & Development 41 (2019) 359-366

www.elsevier.com/locate/braindev

Original article

Treatment options in pediatric super-refractory status epilepticus

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- 17 patients: 30% each with autoimmune encephalitis, epilepsy
- Anesthetic: midazolam (94%), propofol (53%)
- Immunological (77%)
- Ketogenic diet (77%)
- B6/PLP (70%)
- Mortality rate 17.6%

Summary

- Status epilepticus is a true neurologic emergency
- Time is brain, a stepwise and clear plan should be made in order to stop seizure ASAP
- Dose and frequency of AED should be strictly followed
- Prompt recognition and early seizure termination are the key success
- Beware of some treatable cause such as CNS infection/inflammation, IEM

Thank You