



EDITORIAL

Seizure: One year after a change of Editorship

After the change of editorship in March 2004, new goals were defined and it is custom to evaluate the results after a year of publishing. *Seizure* aims to develop as an international journal with a scope of Europe and beyond, with a clinical orientation, fast publication speed and increasing impact.

In 2005 the impact factor is increased to an “all-time high 1.5”, publication speed increased (on average 22 weeks between submission and the on-line availability of the manuscripts and about 40 weeks until print). The clinical orientation is aimed to cover the wide range of epileptology, from basic research (with clinical implication) via drug trial results or new methods, to psychosocial research.

The articles in 2005 certainly cover such wide range and can be categorized in 10 basic groups.

1. Seizure semiology

Covering such topics as ‘symptoms in focal sensory seizures’,¹ ‘characteristics of first seizures’,² ‘perceived self-control of seizures’,³ ‘gelastic seizures’,⁴ ‘somatosensory auras’,⁵ ‘ictal dytonic posturing’,⁶ ‘pilotomotor seizures’,⁷ ‘dropped head syndrome’⁸ and ‘seizures in the newborn’.⁹

2. Drug treatment

Covering both clinical studies on ‘levetiracetam in refractory epilepsy’¹⁰ and children,¹¹ oxcarbazepine,¹² tiagabine,¹³ zonisamide (a full supplement of *Seizure*), the comparison of lamotrigine, vigabatrin and gabapentin,¹⁴ the comparison of ethosuximide, sodium valproate and lamotrigine,¹⁵ continuous midazolam infusion,¹⁶ intravenous valproate,¹⁷ topiramate in infants,¹⁸ carbamazepine¹⁹ and steroids.²⁰ Important data also came from experimental animal studies such as the effect of peptides²¹ or levetiracetam.²²

3. Non-drug treatment

Mostly these studies focused on vagus nerve stimulation.^{23,24}

4. EEG-studies

A wide range of topics were published here, such as ‘magnetoencephalography in negative myoclonus’,²⁵ ‘spiking related to sleep’²⁶ and ‘EEG abnormalities in febrile seizures’.²⁷

5. Psychosocial studies

Seizure aims to remain an important platform for psychosocial studies and in this publication year studies were published on e.g. ‘gender differences in psychogenic non-epileptic seizures’,²⁸ ‘anxiety with respect to seizure outcome after epilepsy surgery’²⁹ ‘economic consequences of epilepsy’,³⁰ ‘predictive factors in non-epileptic seizures’,³¹ ‘behaviour problems’,³² ‘drug-induced complaints’³³ and ‘injuries’.³⁴

6. Neuropsychology

Examples: ‘the effect of structural lesions on language’,³⁵ ‘neuropsychological impairments in children with BECTS’³⁶ and ‘non-verbal intelligence in relation to seizures’.³⁷

7. Neuroimaging studies

An increasing important area of studies with great impact on clinical practice is the use of neuroimaging. Although excellent journals exist in the area of neuroimaging several high quality studies were submitted to *Seizure*, e.g. ‘hippocampal atrophy and neurocysticercosis calcifications’,³⁸ ‘PET/SPECT’,³⁹ ‘hippocampal volume and comorbid disorders’.⁴⁰

8. Epilepsy in developing countries

In line with the ILAE/IBE/WHO ‘out of the shadows’ campaign several studies were published on the treatment problems in developing countries such as the ‘the ILAE/IBE/WHO study on the treatment gap in Senegal’,⁴¹ ‘stigma in Korea’.⁴²

9. Epilepsy surgery

An example: early hemispherotomy in Ohtahara syndrome.⁴³

10. Genetic studies

Finally this particular exciting area of study resulted in several publications such as on SCN1A mutation associated with severe GEFS+.⁴⁴

It is clear from this summary that there is a broad range of clinically oriented articles and that the studies are from all European countries and beyond. In fact the following list covers the countries of origin of the publications of seven of the eight issues published in 2005:

Austria
Belgium
Brazil
Canada
Colombia
Czech Republic
Finland
Germany
Hungary
India
Ireland
Italy
Japan
Netherlands
Norway
Republic of Korea
Senegal
Serbia
South Korea
Sweden
Turkey
United Kingdom
United States of America

Finally, the Editorial Board has changed, both in composition and in tasks. The board now serves mainly as the 'parliament' advising the editorship in aims and philosophy of the journal and helps to assess its current goals. The new Editorial Board consists of:

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