

2018 Annual Report - Nosology and Definitions Task Force

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The Nosology and Definitions Task Force has been charged with two major goals:

1. To propose a list of epilepsy syndromes with clear definitions
2. To propose definitions and nosology for status epilepticus

Syndrome Definitions:

Four subgroups, based on typical age at presentation, have been defined: (1) Neonatal Syndromes, (2) Infantile Syndromes, (3) Childhood Syndromes, and (4) Adolescent, Adult, and Variable Age Syndromes. Our group held a productive meeting in Vienna, where we discussed whether specific surgical epilepsy entities (some of which were referred to as *constellations* in the 2010 report), or specific gene epilepsies should also be defined as syndromes. If a surgical entity meets the definition of a syndrome (*a characteristic cluster of clinical and laboratory features in an individual with epilepsy, often with etiologic, prognostic, and treatment implications, possibly with age-dependent presentations and specific co-morbidities*), it can be considered a syndrome.

Small groups continue their work predominantly by teleconference to finalize syndrome definitions, building on the work already done on EpilepsyDiagnosis.org. For each proposed syndrome, we will provide a brief overview, clinical features (age at onset, sex ratio, antecedent history, development and cognition, neurological exam findings, natural history), seizure types (mandatory, possible, exclusionary), EEG features (interictal and ictal), neuroimaging findings, genetic associations, and important differential diagnoses. Our goal is to complete proposals for all syndromes in the next year, and then forward these to recognized international experts for their feedback.

Status Epilepticus:

The Status Epilepticus sub task force has finalized definitions for Refractory Status Epilepticus, Super-Refractory Status Epilepticus, New-Onset Refractory Status Epilepticus and Febrile-Infection Related Epilepsy Syndrome.

Paolo Tinuper, Eugen Trinka, Elaine Wirrell
on behalf of the Nosology and Definitions Task Force