

COMMENT. MR imaging and intracranial ECoG recordings are essential determinants of outcome of patients with MCD and medically intractable epilepsy. Neuronal proliferation pathology carries a better prognosis than abnormalities of cortical migration or organization. Surgery can result in 67% long-term seizure freedom.

## **MEMORY DEFICITS IN CHILDREN WITH MESIAL TEMPORAL SCLEROSIS AND EPILEPSY**

Researchers at Sao Paulo School of Medicine, Brazil, analyzed the occurrence of episodic memory (for personally experienced events) and semantic memory (for stored knowledge acquired in the past) deficits in 19 consecutive children with mesial temporal sclerosis (MTS) (8-16 years old; mean IQ 97). Patients performed worse on tests of immediate and delayed verbal episodic memory, visual episodic memory, verbal and visual learning, mental scanning for semantic clues, object naming, word definition, and repetition of sentences. Patients with a history of status epilepticus had worse visual episodic memory, whereas patients with uncontrolled daily and weekly seizures had worse verbal learning. Patients on polytherapy were more impaired in visual learning. Early age of seizure onset had a significant negative impact on semantic memory tests. Except for a lower score on the Boston Naming Test with left sided MTS of right, episodic or semantic memory tests showed no differences with laterality of MTS. (Rzezak P, Guimaraes C, Fuentes D, Guerreiro MM, Valente KDR. *Episodic and semantic memory in children with mesial temporal sclerosis. Epilepsy Behav* July 2011;21:242-247). (Respond: Dr Patricia Rzezak, Rua Abdo Ambuba, 75/31 Sao Paulo-SP, Brazil, 05725-030. E-mail: [patriciarzezak@gmail.com](mailto:patriciarzezak@gmail.com)).

COMMENT. MTS epilepsy in children is associated with significant deficits in episodic and semantic memory function, despite normal intelligence. The earlier the onset of epilepsy, the more severe is the impairment of semantic memory. Definition of distinct domains of memory is required for rehabilitation measures.

**Tests of everyday verbal memory in 132 children with epilepsy** were predictive of academic performance but not significantly correlated with reports of prospective memory. (Chapieski L et al. *Epilepsy Behav* July 2011;21:285-290).

## **ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDERS**

### **EFFICACY AND SAFETY OF METHYLPHENIDATE FOR ADHD AND UNCONTROLLED SEIZURES**

Twenty-four participants with uncontrolled epilepsy and ADHD in this prospective study, conducted at University of Joinville, Santa Catarina, Brazil, were 7 – 16 years of age. They had been followed for at least 6 months before introduction of methylphenidate (MPH), and had at least 2 seizures treated with antiepileptic drugs. MPH dose started at 5 mg once or twice daily, and was increased by 10 mg weekly as necessary, not exceeding 60 mg daily. MPH was effective in control of ADHD in 70.8%