

Atlas of Ictal EEG

READER'S MANUAL

(With CD)

By:

Ali A. Asadi-Pooya, M.D.

Associate Professor of Epileptology

Department of Neurology

Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Shiraz, Iran.

and

Adjunct Research Assistant Professor of Neurology

Jefferson Comprehensive Epilepsy Center,

Department of Neurology, Thomas Jefferson University,

Philadelphia, USA.

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Introduction

Electroencephalography (EEG) is an essential tool in evaluating patients with epilepsy [1]. When combined with the history and neurological examination, the interictal EEG often suggests the diagnosis of the epilepsy syndrome [2, 3]. For example, a persistent temporal lobe spike usually leads to the diagnosis of temporal lobe epilepsy [4]. Likewise, the

ictal scalp EEG often accurately suggests the site of origin of seizures. Moreover, the presence of non-epileptiform interictal or postictal abnormalities, such as focal slow waves, can also help identify an abnormal area of the brain; though the sensitivity and specificity of the technique are sometimes lacking [5]. Understanding the interictal, ictal and postictal characteristics of seizures and epilepsies is important not only for the diagnosis, but also for planning the treatment accurately.