The incidence of dementia in elderly patients with epilepsy is significant, with a higher prevalence than in the general population. 2 Most patients experience comorbidities, and early diagnosis and management of these conditions are crucial.

Introduction The incidence of epilepsy is higher in patients with underlying dementia. 1 The goal of the present study is to look at the incidence of dementia in patients presented to our epilepsy clinic and analyse electroencephalogram (EEG), imaging findings and response to antiepileptic drug (AED) in these individuals.

Methods A retrospective study was performed on patients presented to Nepean Hospital epilepsy clinic from 2015 to 2017. Multiple clinical parameters were obtained from electronic medical records.

Results A total of 258 patients presented to the clinic, of which 38 patients were above the age of 65 years. 11 patients were excluded due to insufficient information or patients without any history of seizures. Out of the remaining 27 patients studied, nine patients (33%) had dementia including five patients (19%) with Alzheimer’s dementia. Sixteen patients (59%) experienced complex partial seizures. Brain MRI was performed in twenty one patients (78%). Sixteen patients (59%) had MRI-identified structural lesions including prior stroke or intracerebral haemorrhage. EEGs were performed in twenty patients (74%). Eight patients (30%) had abnormal EEG with one patient (5%) having epileptiform discharges, three patients (15%) having focal slowing and four patients (20%) having generalised slowing. Overall, nineteen patients (70%) were on AEDs with good control and four patients (15%) required more than one AED to achieve seizure control.

Conclusion The study showed that there is higher incidence of dementia in patients with epilepsy compared with general population. 2 Most patients experience complex partial seizures and can be adequately controlled on single AED.

REFERENCES

128 LATE-ONSET POMPE DISEASE (LOPD) PRESENTING WITH FULMINANT HYPERCAPNIC RESPIRATORY FAILURE
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Introduction We report a case of LOPD with acute-on-chronic respiratory failure.
Case A 57 year-old retired farmer presented with obtundation requiring intubation. He reported a 4 month history of hypophonia, intermittent diplopia, lethargy and orthopnea.

Initial arterial blood gas measurement displayed acute-on-chronic hypercapnic respiratory failure (pH 7.19, pO2 98 mmHg, pCO2 112 mmHg, HCO3 43 mmol/L). Muscle biopsy was suggestive of LOPD with myofibres demonstrating acid phosphatase and periodic acid-schiff positive vacuoles. Diagnosis was confirmed with low α-glucosidase activity on dried blood spot (0.4umol/h/L) and elevated urinary tetrasaccharide level (5 mmol/mol creatinine). Mutation analysis of the GAA gene demonstrated two known pathogenic mutations (c.-32–13T>G and c.1075+1G>T). With improved ventilation, he was able to be extubated. The only respiratory support on discharge was overnight bilevel positive airway pressure ventilation.

Conclusion LOPD is a rare autosomal recessive metabolic disorder caused by a deficiency in acid α-glucosidase. This leads to intra-lysosomal accumulation of glycogen in tissues. Particularly in the late form, there is significant phenotypic variability. 1 Diagnosis remains challenging. Cases have been reported with a range of initial symptoms including stroke, 2 syncope 3 and chronic respiratory failure. 4 Acute on chronic respiratory failure at presentation is rare.

Enzyme replacement therapy has been shown to improve both morbidity and mortality in LOPD. 5 Earlier treatment is associated with better outcomes. 6 Prompt recognition of cases is paramount. Unexplained acute-on-chronic respiratory failure should raise the possibility of this condition. In such cases, management of ventilation is vital.

REFERENCES