

IV

• 21 Rhythmic movements: Head movement (1)

Context

78-year-old man with a dementia.

What to note

At Fz and C3 but also at a lesser degree over the temporal regions, rhythmic sharp theta activity. The amplitude gradually builds up. The activity recorded at C3 stops suddenly but not at Fz (see plate recorded at 15 mm/s). These activities correspond to rapid head movements.

What to do

Ask the patient to stay still, keep the patient from leaning on the electrodes or try to maintain his head. This may eliminate the movement artifact but not the muscle artifacts because the patient can become even more agitated when he does not understand. The EEG technician must mention that the artifact corresponds to rhythmic movements of the head. It is quite difficult to perform an EEG in demented patients.

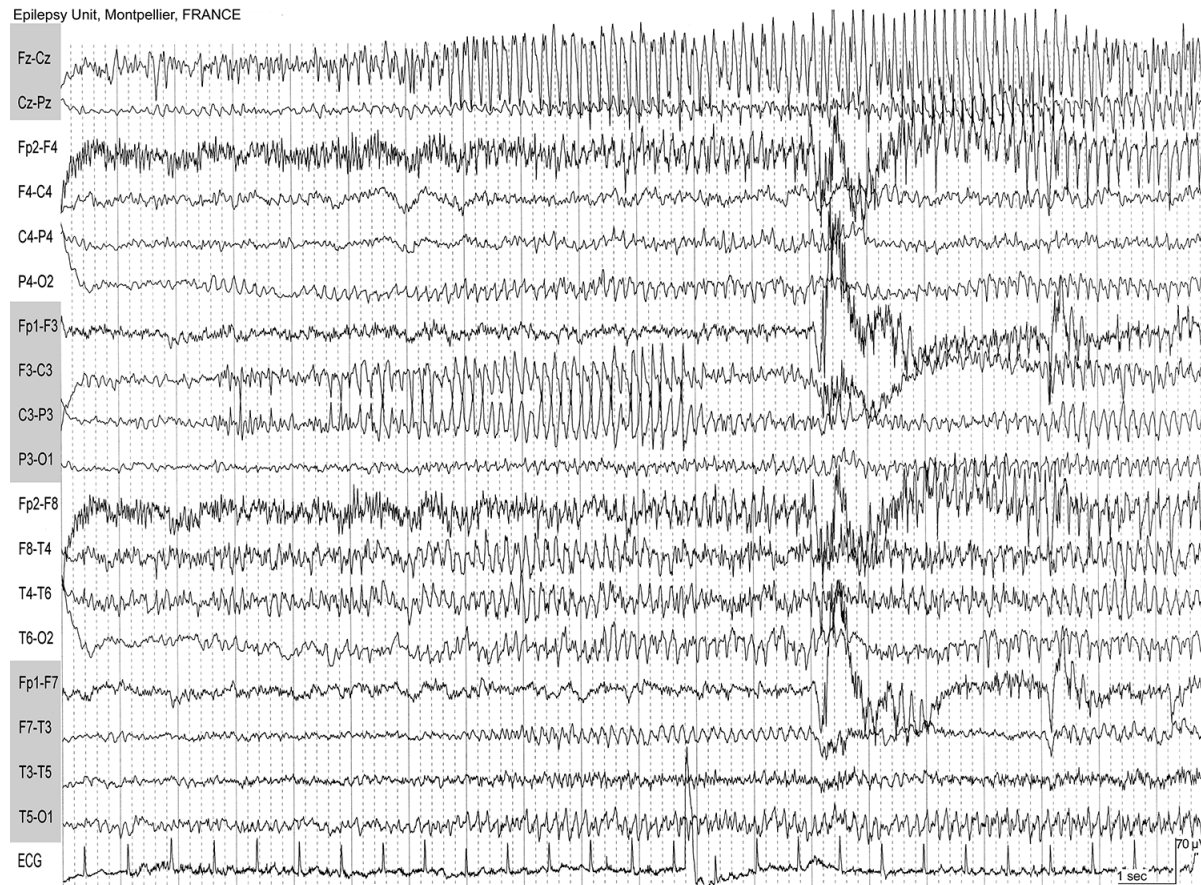


Figure a / Recording at 15 mm/s. The amplitude at Fz builds up then progressively decreases at the end of the plate when head movements decrease.

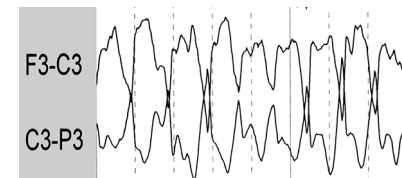


Figure b / Sharp theta activity at C3.

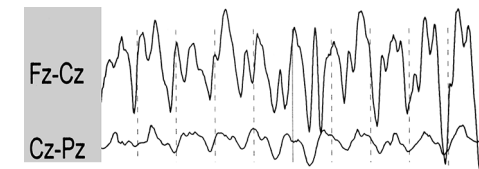


Figure c / Sharp theta activity at Fz.

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