## Normal EEG in children

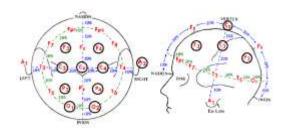
## **EEG** workshop

Sorawit Viravan

## **Electrode placement**

- · International 10-20 system
  - Minimum 21 electrodes
  - Odd-numbered electrodes are placed on the left side of the head, and even-numbered electrodes are placed on the right side of the head
  - Specific letters designate the anatomical area; for example "F" means frontal

## International 10-20 system





## Common Montage types

#### The difference in voltage between two electrodes

· Bipolar:

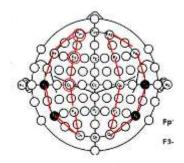
Each channel represents difference between 2 adjacent electrodes

- AP bipolar
- Coronal / transverse bipolar
- Referential:

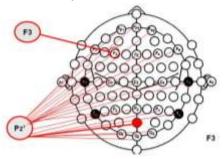
Each channel represents the difference between a certain electrode and the designated reference position

- ipsilateral ear
- average
- midline, etc.

## AP bipolar montage (double banana): for localization



## Referential montage: for amplitude measurement



## **EEG** activity

- Waveform
- Frequency
- Amplitude
- Polarity
- Timing

#### Wave form

- Spike
  - Sharply contoured, duration 20-70 msec
- · Sharp wave
  - Sharply contoured, duration 70-200 msec
- · Sharp transient
  - Sharply contoured waveform
- · Other morphology
  - spindles, arciform, saw-tooth

## Wave form

- · Monophasic wave
  - Single deflection: up or down
- · Diphasic wave
  - 2 components on opposite sides
- · Polyphasic wave
  - 2 or more components of different direction

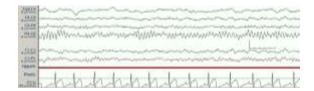


## Frequency

Delta wave < 4 Hz</li>Theta wave < 4-7 Hz</li>

Alpha wave 4-7 Hz
Alpha wave 8-13 Hz

• Beta wave > 13 Hz



## **Amplitude**

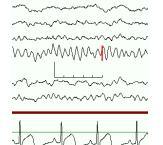
#### Total vertical distance of wave

• Low < 20 μV

• Medium  $20-50 \mu V$ 

• High  $> 50 \mu V$ 

Affected by barriers



#### Distribution

- · Generalized / diffuse
- Lateralized
- Focal / localized

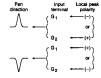
## **Polarity**

#### Bipolar (input 1 - Input 2)

- · Upward pen deflection
  - when input 1 is more negative than input 2
  - when input 2 is more positive than input 1
- · Downward deflection
  - when input 1 is more positive than input 2
  - when input 2 is more negative than input 1

#### Referencial (Input 1 – Ref)

- negative is up and positive is down



## **Timing**

- Synchronous
- · Bilaterally synchronous
- Asynchronous
- · Independent

#### EEG in newborn

- · Post conceptional age
- · Duration at least 60 minutes
- · Awake / Active sleep / Quiet sleep
- Continuity / Synchrony
- Symmetry / Reactivity
- · Normal specific EEG pattern

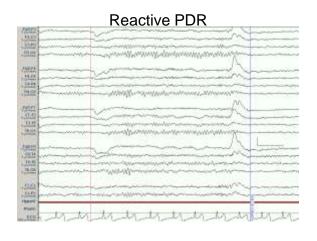
# Pediatric EEG

#### **Awake**

- · Posterior dominant rhythm (PDR)
- · Posterior slow wave of youth (PSWY)
- · Mu rhythm
- · Beta activity
- · Lambda wave
- · Eye movement
- Artifact

#### **PDR**

- · Alert, eye-closed, in rest state
- · First seen at 3 months of age
- · Maximum posterior head region
- Reactivity
  - Attenuation with eye opening, + anxiety



#### **PDR**

- Higher amplitude over right hemisphere (< 50% difference)</li>
  - due to asymmetric skull thickness
- Amplitude ~ 50-100 uV
- Decreasing amplitude with increasing age due to increased bone density of the skull

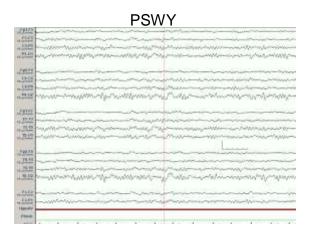
#### **PDR**

#### Frequency in Children

3-4 months: 4 Hz
12 months: 5-6 Hz
2 years: 7 Hz
3 years: 8 Hz
9 years: 9 Hz
15 years: 10 Hz

## **PSWY**

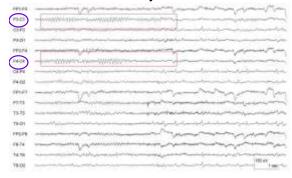
- Slow activity intermixed with PDR
- Moderate voltage (<120% of normal alpha rhythm voltage)
- · May be asymmetry
- Best seen in 8-14 years
- · Block with eye opening
- Disappear with the alpha rhythm during drowsiness and light sleep



#### Mu

- central arch-like rhythm of alpha frequency (usually 8-10 Hz)
- May be related to the functions of the sensorimotor cortex at rest
- Best seen between 8-16 years
- Asymmetrical
- Blocked unilaterally with movement of the contralateral extremity
- · Not blocked by eye opening

## Mu rhythm



#### Beta

- Frequencies more than 13 Hz
- Amplitude < 20 uV, usually < 10 uV
- Three band

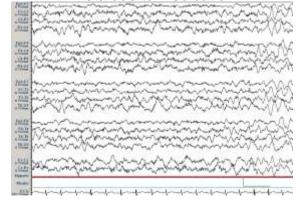
18-25 Hz band (common)

14-16 Hz band (less common)

35-40 Hz band (rare)

- · Increased by
  - Drugs eg. barbiturate, benzodiazepine, chloral hydrate (18-25 Hz > 14-16 Hz)

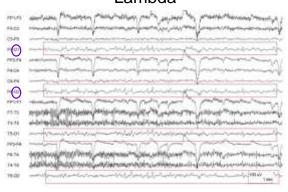
#### Beta due to medication



## Lambda wave

- · Surface positive, check mark-like wave
- Occipital region
- During eye opening
- Visually scanning at complex picture (ceiling, TV etc.) with saccadic eye movement
- · Best seen in 2-15 years
- May be asymmetrical

#### Lambda



## Eye movement (EM)

Vertical EM

(Fp1, Fp2)

- · Eye opening
- · Eye closure
- Eye blinking

Horizontal EM

(F7, F8)

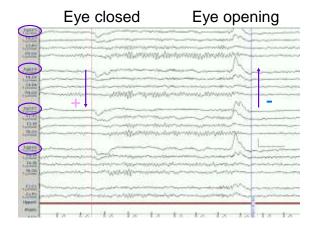
- · To the left
- · To the right

## Eye movement (EM)

- Cornea → positivity
- Retina → negativity
- Nearest electrode of the direction of EM will pick up positivity, the opposite electrode will pick up negativity

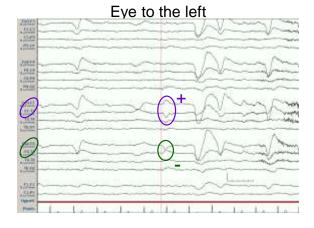
#### Vertical EM

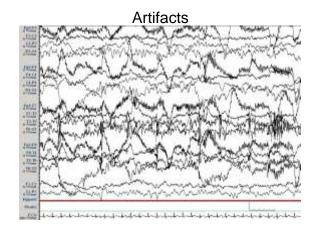
- Eye closure (relatively eyes go up)
  - → Fp1 and Fp2 pick up positivity
  - → downward deflection at Fp1-F7, Fp2-F8
- Eye opening (relatively eyes go down)
  - → Fp1 and Fp2 pick up negativity
  - → upward deflection at Fp1-F7, Fp2-F8



#### Horizontal EM

- · Eye turn to the left
  - → F7 pick up positivity, F8 pick up negativity
  - → positive phase reversal at F7 (Hole)
  - → negative phase reversal at F8
- · Eye turn to the right
  - → F8 pick up positivity, F7 pick up negativity
  - → positive phase reversal at F8 (Hole)
  - → negative phase reversal at F7





## Sleep

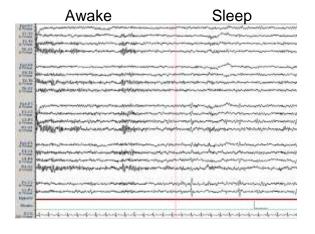
#### Non-REM sleep

- Stage 1 (drowsiness)
- Stage 2
- Stage 3 & 4

**REM sleep** 

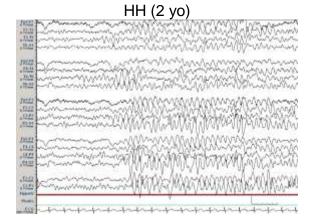
## Stage 1

- · Alpha drop out
- Hypnagogic hypersynchrony
- POSTs
- Beta activity
- Vertex wave



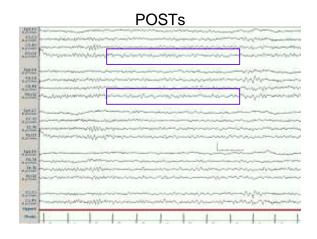
## Hypnagogic hypersynchrony

- · Burst of generalized high voltage 3-5 Hz
- · Maximum fronto-central
- Awake → sleep
- · Begin 6 months
- · Best seen 1-5 years
- · Rare after 11-12 years
- Hypnapompic: sleep → awake



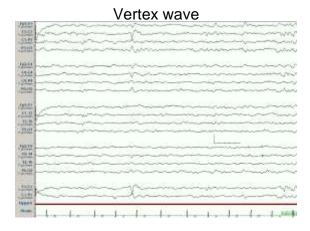
#### **POSTs**

- Positive occipital sharp transients of sleep
- · 4-5 Hz, checkmark-like, isolated or in trains
- Esp. daytime nap, arousal → return to sleep
- Commonly asymmetry
- Age 4-50 years
- Best seen 15-35 years



#### Vertex wave

- Sharp transient maximum Cz (vertex)
- Begin 8 weeks post term
- Age 1-4 years; spiky and high amplitude
- Runs of vertex

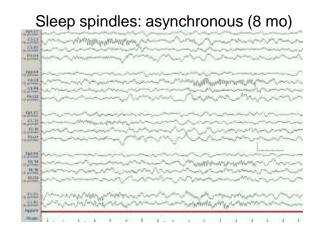


## Stage 2

- · Sleep spindles
- K-complex
- · Delta wave
- (Vertex, POSTs)

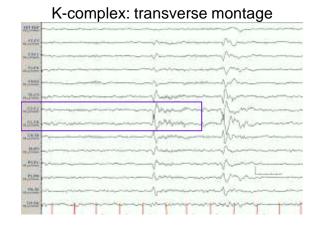
## Sleep spindles

- 11-14 Hz
- Maximum central, frontal (Cz, C3C4, F3F4)
- 2-5 seconds duration, may be spiky
- · Lack of fusiform shape as in adult
- Begin 6-8 weeks post term; asynchronous but symmetrical
- · Age 2 years; synchronous



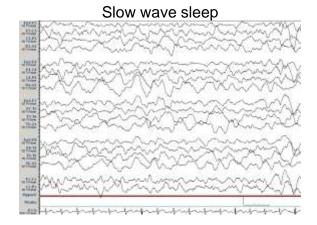
## K-complex

- 1. Vertex + spindles
- 2. Biphasic high amplitude slow wave > 0.5 seconds duration
- Maximum Cz (vertex)
- · Begin 5 months



## Stage 3 & 4

- Delta activity
   20-50% → stage III
   >50% → stage IV
- (Sleep spindles)



## REM

- Sleep onset in newborn until 2.5 months, then NREM onset
- · Rapid eye movement
- · Relatively absent EMG
- · Intermixed delta/theta, saw tooth appearance
- · Rarely seen in routine pediatric EEG

#### Arousal

- · Brief arousal period from sleep
- · Abrupt change of the background
- Biphasic slow wave: begin 3 mo
- 4-5 Hz: begin 7 mo
- 8-10 Hz: adolescent
- · Usually 4-5 seconds or longer

## Photic stimulation

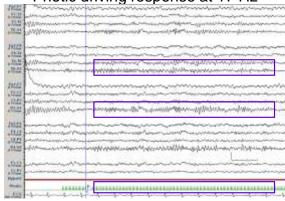
Done in dimly lit room, 30 cm away from eyes Frequency 1-30 Hz

- · Visual evoked response
- · Photo myogenic response
- · Photic driving response

## Photic driving response

- Usually > 3 Hz
- · Posterior head region
- Related to stimulus frequency
- Asymmetry is not associated with structural brain disease in the absence of other abnormalities

## Photic driving response at 17 Hz



## Hyperventilation test

- · Duration 3 minutes; adequate
- Normal response: build up of diffuse, synchronous high voltage delta activity
- More prominent posteriorly in age < 8 yrs
- Change usually resolve within 60 seconds

## HV response (11 yo)

