



# Clues for Discovering Causes of Status Epilepticus (Pediatric)

**Directs & Trends in Epilepsy Management**

**6 August 2021**

**Sorawit Viravan**



# Today's Talk

**Cause**

**SE in children**

**Clues**

**SE in children**

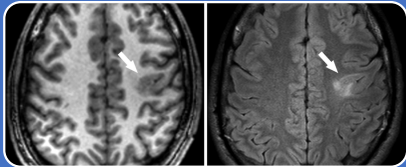


# Causes of Status Epilepticus



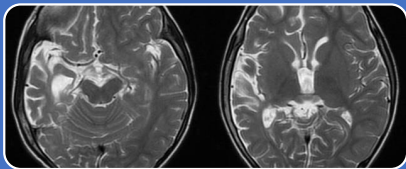
## Acute Symptomatic

- HIE / Ischemic stroke / Hemorrhagic stroke / Cerebral sinovenous thrombosis / PRES
- CNS infection / Immune encephalitis / Febrile seizure



## Remote Symptomatic

- FCD / CNS malformation / Genetic epilepsy / Chromosomal dis. / Metabolic epilepsy
- Previous brain tumor, encephalitis, stroke, HIE / Post-infectious hydrocephalus



## Progressive Symptomatic

- Mitochondrial dis. / Rasmussen encephalitis / Inborn error of Metabolism (small mol., storage dis.)
- Neurodegenerative dis. (White matter / Grey matter)



## Epilepsy Syndrome / Electroclinical syndrome

- Focal (idiopathic)
- Generalized (idiopathic)



# Acute Symptomatic

- Previously neurologically normal child
- Within a week
  - CNS infection / inflammation
  - Cerebrovascular disease
  - HIE
  - Prolonged febrile seizures
  - Encephalopathy
  - Head trauma
  - Metabolic or toxic derangements

*Gastaut, 1983; ILAE Commission on Epidemiology and Prognosis, 1993*



# Remote Symptomatic

- Absence of an identified acute insult
- History of a pre-existing CNS abnormality more than 1 week
  - FCD / CNS malformation
  - Genetic epilepsy / Metabolic epilepsy / Chromosomal dis.
  - Previous brain tumor, encephalitis, stroke, HIE
  - Post-infectious hydrocephalus

*Gastaut, 1983; ILAE Commission on Epidemiology and Prognosis, 1993*



# Progressive Symptomatic

- SE in **progressive neurologic disease**
  - Mitochondrial disease
  - Rasmussen encephalitis
  - Inborn error of Metabolism (small molecule, storage disease)
  - Neurodegenerative disease (White matter / Grey matter)

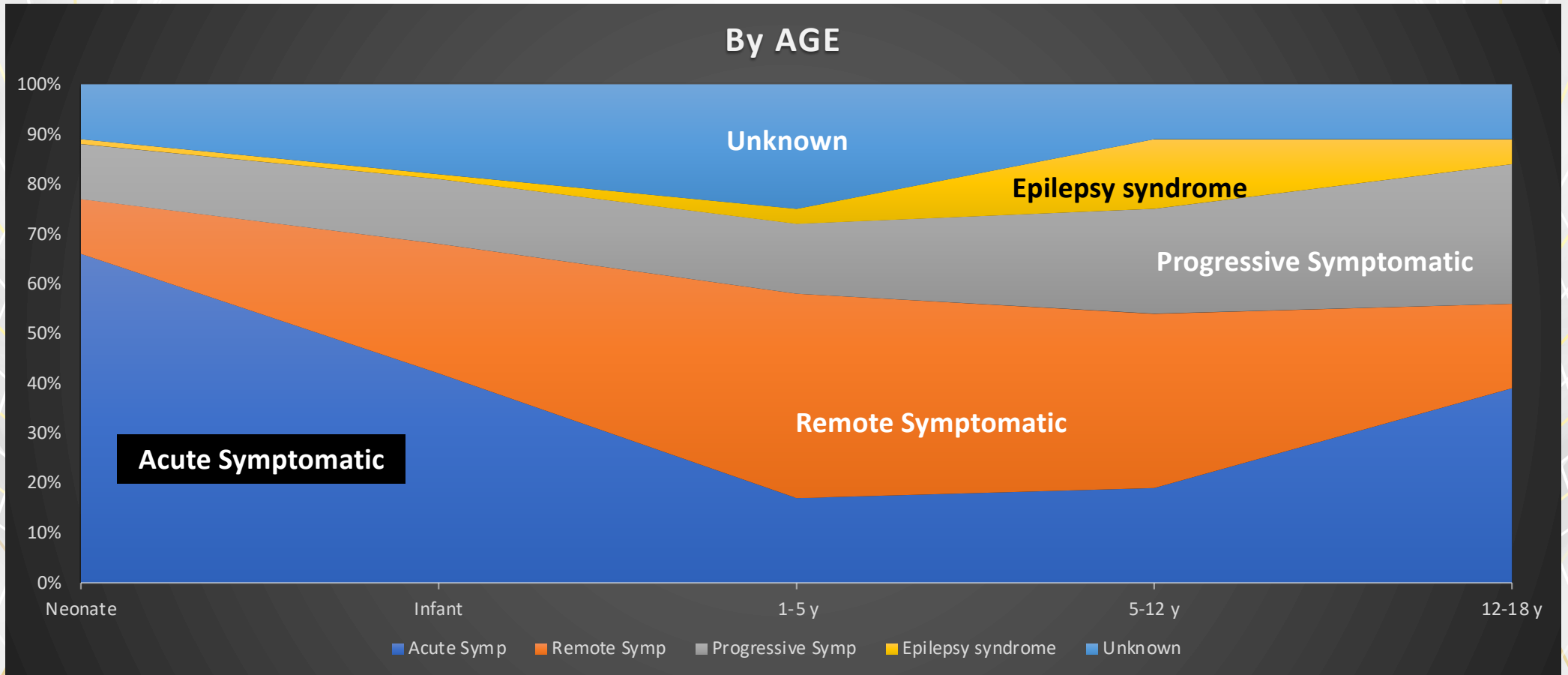


# Epilepsy (Electroclinical) Syndrome

- Prior **diagnosis of idiopathic (focal or generalized) epilepsy**  
or
- When the episode of SE is the **second unprovoked seizure** that has led to a diagnosis of epilepsy syndrome



# Causes of Status Epilepticus



Specchio et al. Pediatric SE. Epilepsia 2019;60:2486–2498.





Why is it important  
to know CAUSE of SE?



# Status Epilepticus Treatment

Stop prolonged seizure ASAP

Before T2

Work up & Rx etiology

Better outcome

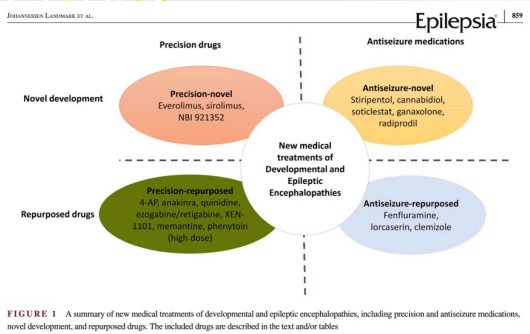
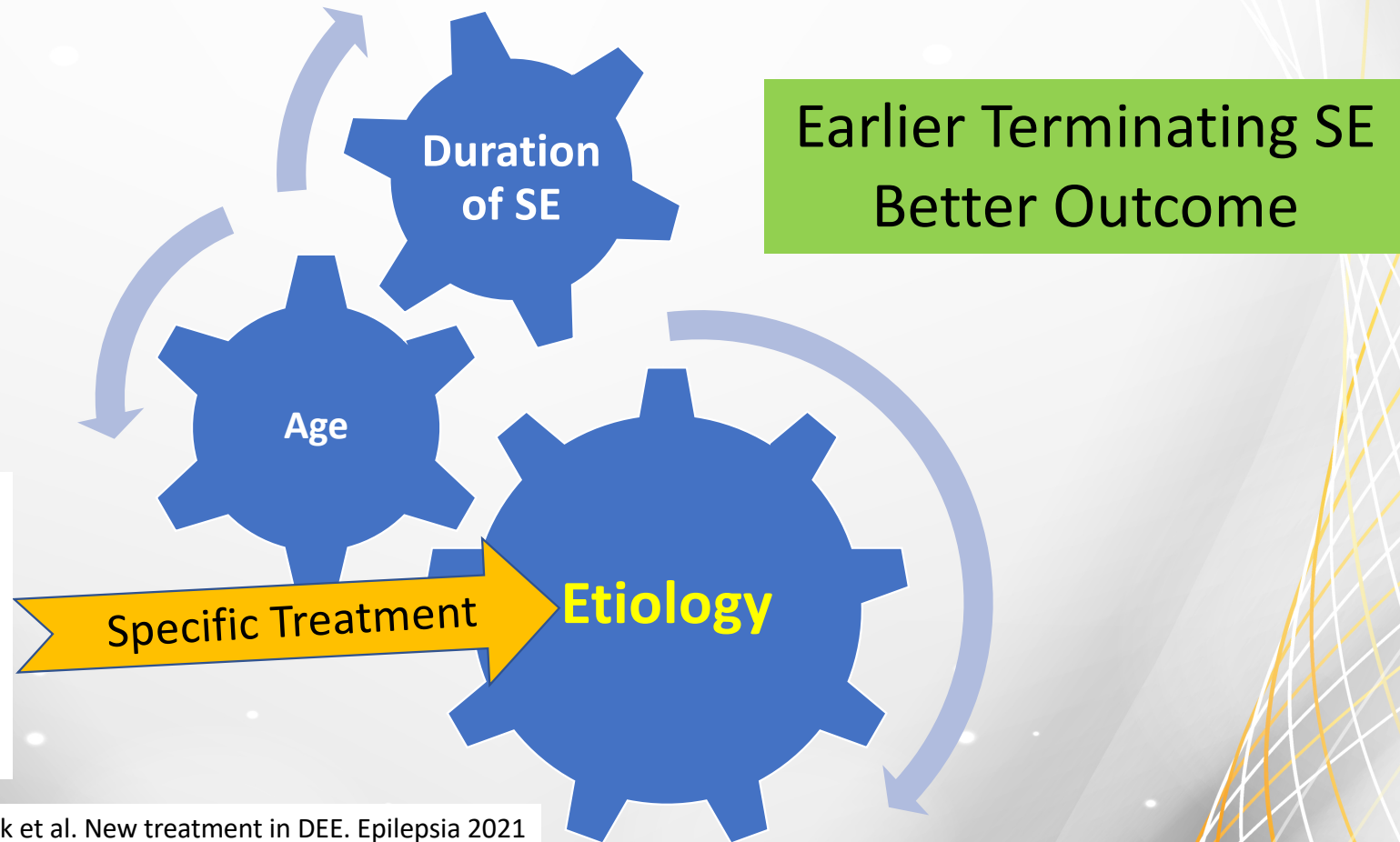
Prevent recurrent seizure

Maintenance dose

Monitor complication from SE!



# Prognosis of pediatric SE



Johannessen Landmark et al. New treatment in DEE. *Epilepsia* 2021

Specchio et al. Pediatric SE. *Epilepsia* 2019;60:2486–2498.

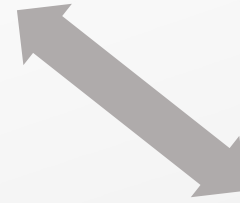


# Poorer Cognitive and Neurological Outcome

Neonatal onset

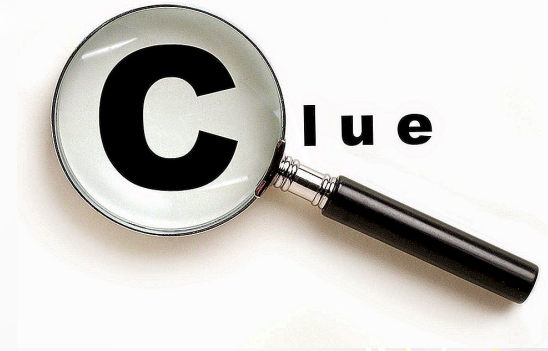
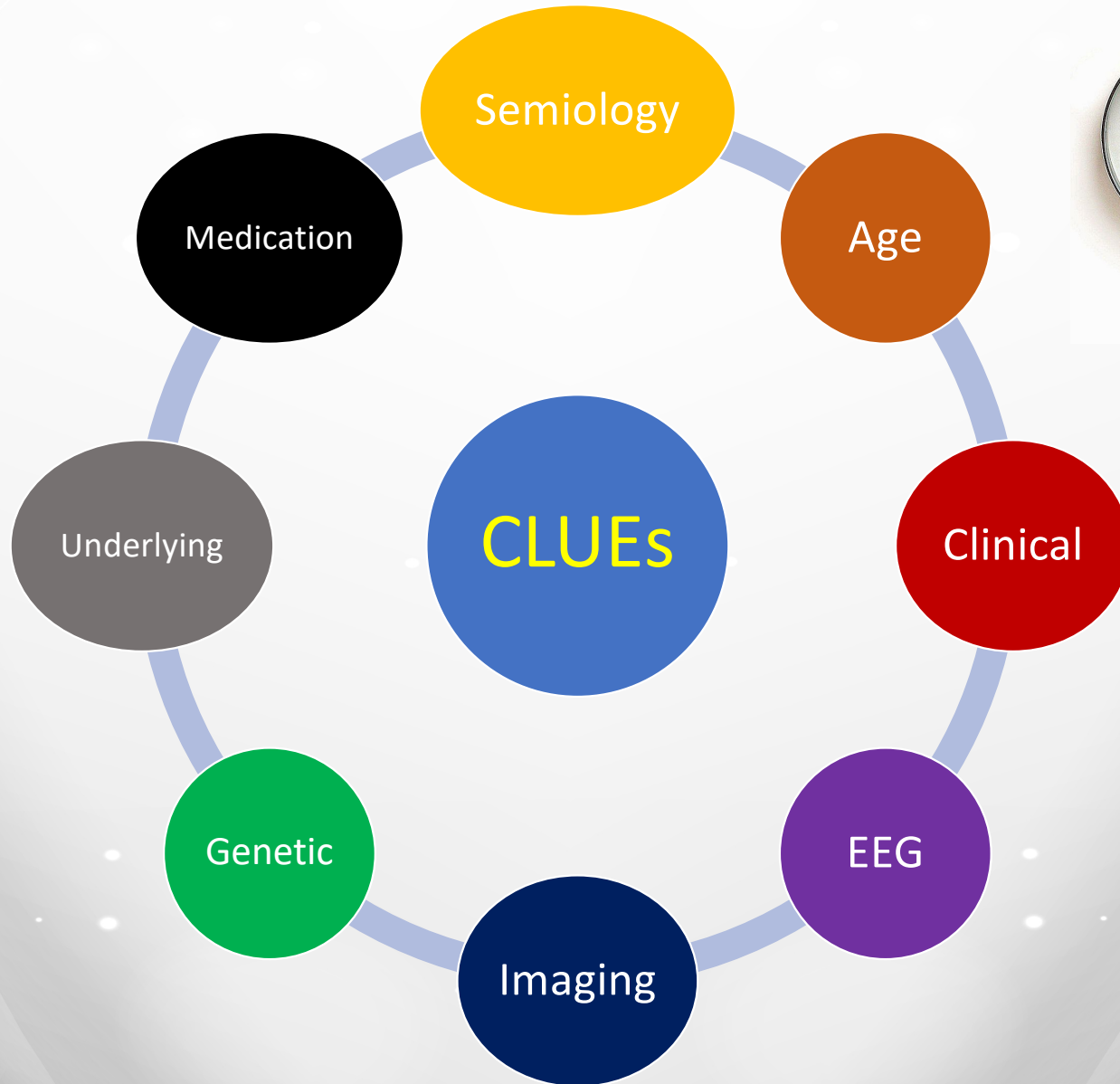
Longer duration  
of SE

Acute symptomatic





What is the CLUEs  
to discover CAUSE of SE?



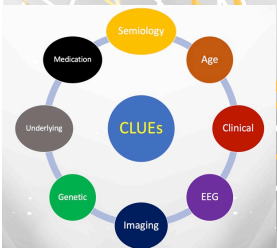


# Semiology Clues



- Myoclonic SE → Progressive symptomatic (OR 6.14, 95% CI 2.09, 18.04)
  - Metabolic disorder

Higher mortality rate and risk of recurrent SE
- Epilepsia partialis continua (EPC) → Hemispheric etiology
- Tonic CSE → Epilepsy (LGS)



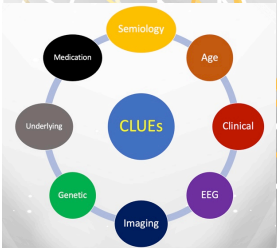
Specchio et al. Pediatric SE. Epilepsia 2019;60:2486–2498  
Arzimanoglou et al., 2004



# Age Clues



- Preterm → IVH
- Term → HIE (first 24 hr), IEM (abnormal odor), genetic/metabolic epilepsy
- < 2 years → Febrile SE, Other acute symptomatic
- Adolescent → Immune-mediated encephalitis





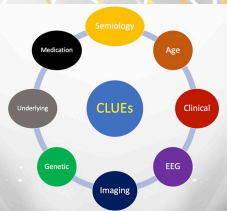


# Neonatal

- Self-limited neonatal seizures (fifth day fit)
- Self-limited familial neonatal epilepsy (KCNQ2, KCNQ3)
- Ohtahara syndrome (more structural)
- Early myoclonic encephalopathy (more metabolic)

# Infant

- Dravet syndrome
- GEFS+
- Epilepsy of infancy with migratory focal seizures





# Clinical Clues (1)

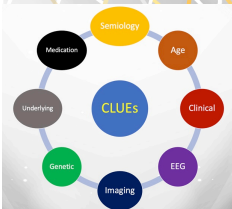


- History

- ✓ Hypoxia / cardiac arrest → HIE
- ✓ Fever → Febrile SE > CNS infection
- ✓ Onset fever to Onset seizure < 24 hr → Febrile SE > FIRES (febrile infection-related epilepsy syndrome)

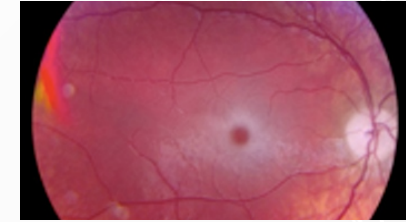
Sculier et al. Epilepsia 2021

- ✓ Progressive weakness, cognitive decline → Progressive symptomatic



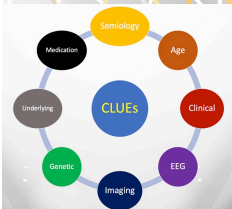


# Clinical Clues (2)



- Examination

- ✓ Orofacial dyskinesia + abnormal movement → Anti-NMDAR encephalitis
- ✓ Neonate with hiccups → Non-ketotic hyperglycinemia (NKH)
- ✓ Infant with rash / abnormal urinary odor → IEM
- ✓ Microcephaly / Macrocephaly → Cerebral malformation / hydrocephalus
- ✓ Skin (hypopigmented macules / port-wine stain) → TSC / SWS
- ✓ Fundi (optic atrophy, RP, Cherry-red spot) → Progressive symptomatic





# EEG Clues

- Extreme delta brush → Anti-NMDAR encephalitis (4.5% - 30%)  
more severe (malignant)

Yeshokumar et al. Seizure in AE, systematic review. *Epilepsia* 2021  
Vogrig et al. Seizure specificities in autoimmune encephalitis. *Epilepsia* 2019

- PLEDs → Acute symptomatic (stroke, encephalitis – HSV)

- Repetitive spikes bifrontal followed by slow activities → Ring chr. 20

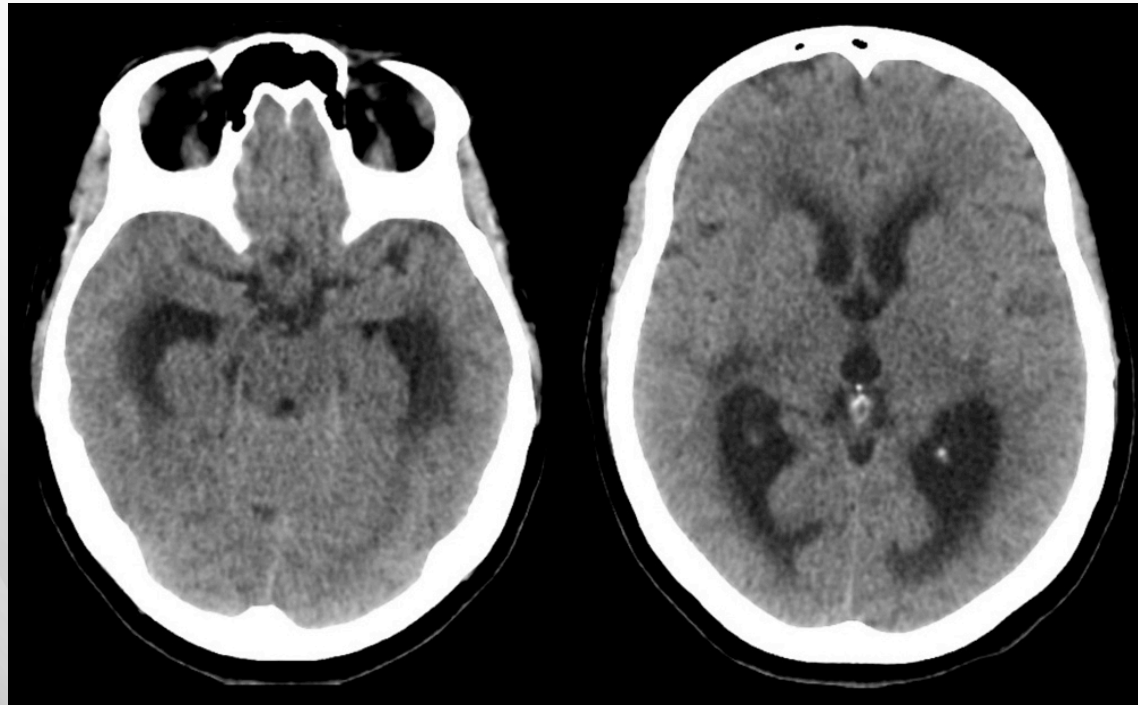
Peron et al. Ring chromosome 20. *Front Neurol* 2020



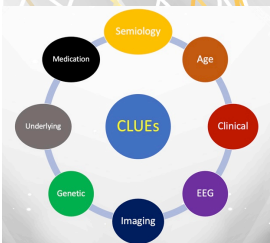


# Imaging (CT) Clues

- Communicating hydrocephalus (early) → TB meningitis

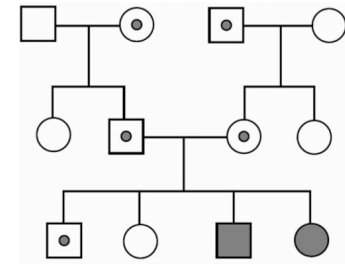


<https://radiopaedia.org/cases/tuberculous-meningitis-6>



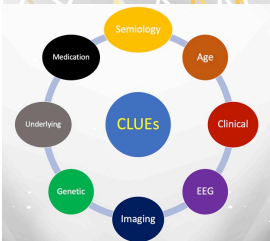


# Genetic Clues



- Consanguinity → IEM / Neurodegenerative dis.
- Family history of FS, FS+ → Dravet syndrome with SE

Clues for sending appropriate  
Genetic / Metabolic testing

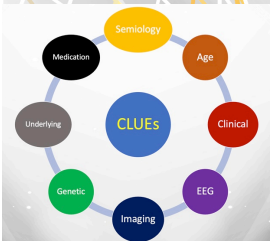




# Underlying Clues



- Epilepsy → ASM discontinuing  
Epilepsy syndrome with SE is usually not refractory
- SLE → PRES
- .....

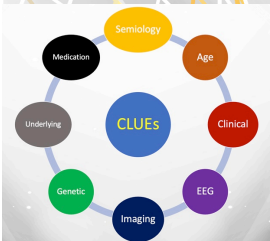




# Medication Clues



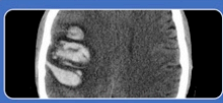
- Failed or Aggravated by IV Phenytoin → Dravet syndrome





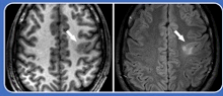


# Summary



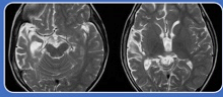
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