

# Pathological assessments in patients with epilepsy



김 세 훈  
연세의대 병리과

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## Pathological assessments in patients with epilepsy

연세의대 병리학교실  
김세훈

1. Pathological assessment
2. Limitations
3. Basic concept of Classification
4. Future

### International recommendation for a comprehensive neuropathologic workup of epilepsy surgery brain tissue: A consensus Task Force report from the ILAE Commission on Diagnostic Methods

<sup>1</sup>\*Tegmar Blumcke, <sup>2</sup>Eleonora Aronica, <sup>3</sup>Hajime Miyata, <sup>4</sup>Harvey B. Sarnat, <sup>5</sup>Maria Thom, <sup>6</sup>Karl Roessler, <sup>7</sup>Bert Rydholm, <sup>8</sup>Lara Juhl, <sup>9</sup>Fred Knick, <sup>10</sup>Samuel Wiebe, and <sup>11</sup>Roberta Spreafico

Epilepsia, 55(11):1-11, 2014  
doi:10.1111/epi.13319

#### SUMMARY

Epilepsy surgery is an effective treatment in many patients with drug-resistant focal epilepsy. An early decision for surgical therapy is facilitated by a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)-visible brain lesion congruent with the electrophysiologically abnormal focus region. Before entrance to the pathologic diagnosis and classification of epileptic brain tissue, several issues are related for clinical correlation, outcome stratification, and patient prognostic. However, application of international consensus classification systems to common epileptic pathologies (e.g., focal cortical dysplasia [FCD] and hippocampal sclerosis [HS]) necessitates standardized protocols for neuropathologic workup of epilepsy surgery specimens. To this end, the Task Force of Neuropathology from the International League Against Epilepsy (ILAE) Commission on Diagnostic Methods developed a consensus standard operational procedures for tissue inspection, distribution, and processing. The aims are to provide a systematic framework for neuropathologic workup, meeting minimal standards and maximizing current and future opportunities for morphofunctional correlation and molecular studies for both clinical care and research. Whenever feasible, systematically intact surgical specimens are desirable to enable systematic analysis in selective hippocampal sections, temporal lobe resection, and laminar or neocortical neocortical samples. Correct orientation of sample and the sample's relation to morphologically abnormal areas requires good communication between pathology and neurosurgical teams. Systematic tissue sampling of frozen slide along a defined anatomic axis and application of a labeled immunohistochemical panel will ensure a reliable differential diagnosis of main pathologies encountered in epilepsy surgery.



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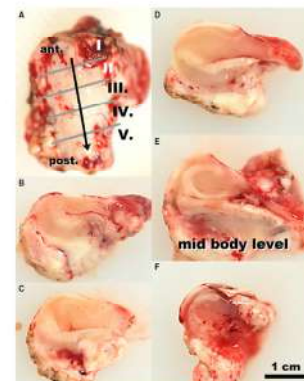
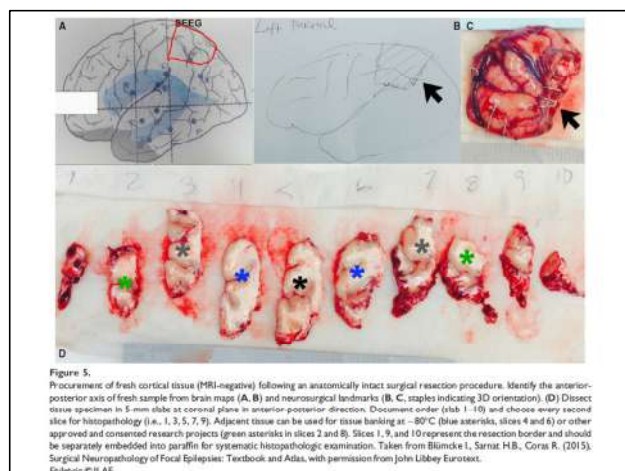
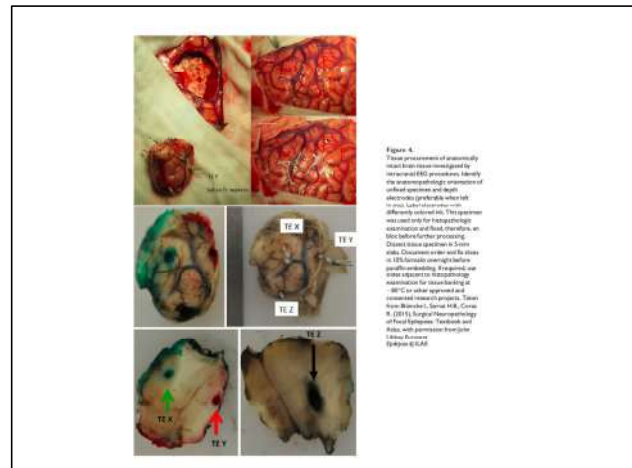
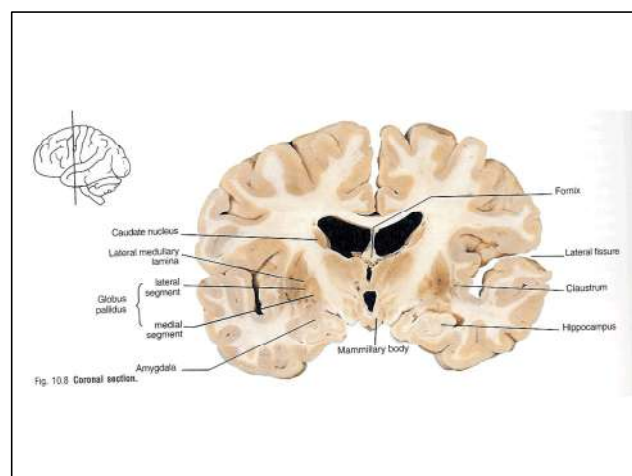
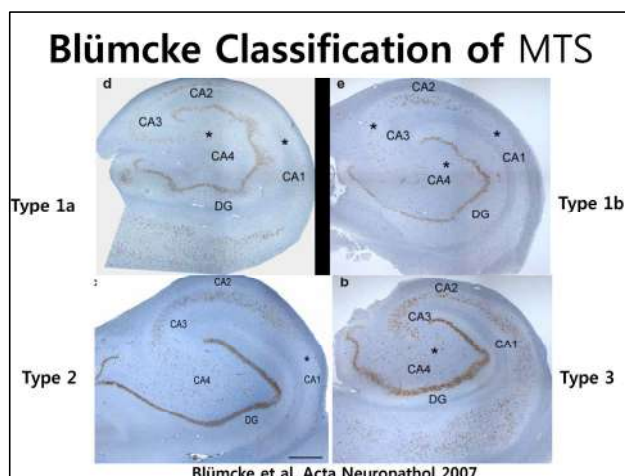


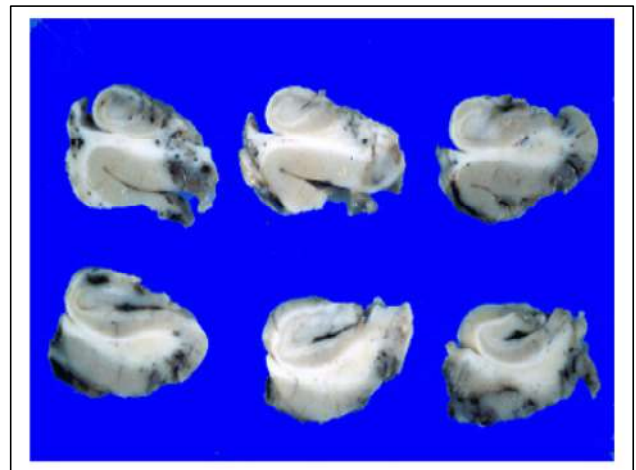
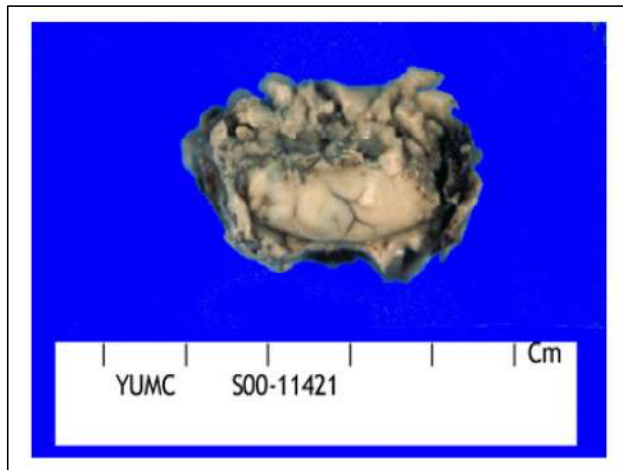
Figure 1. Tissue procurement of anatomically intact human hippocampus. The snap frozen tissue (A) identifies the anterior-posterior axis of fresh sample (arrow in A). Closest tissue specimen in 5-mm slices perpendicular to anterior-posterior axis (B, V indicated by gray bars). Dissection on the mid-chore area from hippocampal mid-body level for histopathology (C, also IV in A). Fix the slice in 10% formalin overnight for paraffin embedding. Adjacent tissue can be used for tissue banking at -80°C. Always observe between histopathology (D, also IV in A) and snap frozen storage (E, F) or other research projects (G). Scale bar = 1 cm. Taken from Blumcke T, Spreafico R (2014). Surgical Neuropathology of Focal Epilepsies. Textbook and Atlas, with permission from John Wiley & Sons.



## Limitations

1. Ability, Experiences and Skill of Pathologists
2. Lack of clinico-radio-pathologic correlation
3. Ambiguity of Pathological Classification
4. Inter-observer variation





## Limitations

- Fragmentation
- Longitudinal section
- surgical skill

## Similar pathologic findings of FCD type II

- Hemimegalencephaly
- Tuberous sclerosis

*Epilepsia*, 52(1):158-174, 2011  
doi: 10.1111/j.1528-1167.2010.02777.x

**SPECIAL REPORT**

**The clinicopathologic spectrum of focal cortical dysplasias:  
A consensus classification proposed by an ad hoc Task Force  
of the ILAE Diagnostic Methods Commission<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Ingmar Blümcke, †Maria Thom, †Eleonora Aronica, †Dawna D. Armstrong, †Harry V. Vinters, #Andre Palmi, †Thomas S. Jacques, †Giuliano Avanzini, †A. James Barkovich, †Giorgio Battaglia, †Albert Becker, †Carlos Cepeda, †Fernando Cendes, †Nadia Colombo, †Peter Crino, †Helen Cross, †Olivier Delalande, †François Dubeau, †John Duncan, †Renzo Guerrini, †Philippe Kahane, †Gary Mathern, †Imad Najm, †Gedem Ozkara, †Charles Raybaud, †Alfonso Represa, †Steven N. Roper, †Noriko Salamon, †Andreas Schulze-Bonhage, †Laura Tassi, †Annamaria Vezzani, and †Roberto Spreafico

**Palmi et al. 2004**

Classification of cortical dysplasias in epilepsy

| Dysplasia type               | subtype  | Main neuropathological type                                   |
|------------------------------|----------|---|
| Mild MCD                     | Type I   | Heterotopic/excess neurons in layer I                         |
|                              | Type II  | Heterotopic/excess neurons outside layer I                    |
| FCD type I                   | Type Ia  | Cortical dislamination only (±MCD features)                   |
|                              | Type Ib  | Cortical dislamination + giant or immature neurons            |
| FCD type II<br>(Taylor-type) | Type IIa | Cortical dislamination + dysmorphic neurons                   |
|                              | Type IIb | Cortical dislamination + dysmorphic neurons and balloon cells |

FCD: Focal cortical dysplasia MCD: malformation of cortical development  
Child's Nerv Sys 22:821-826, 2006

## ILAE Classification of FCD

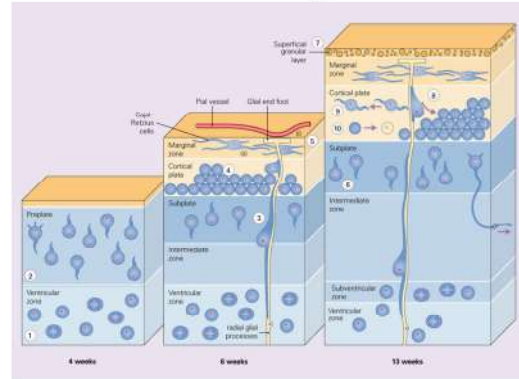
**Table 1. The three-tiered ILAE classification system of focal cortical dysplasia (FCD) distinguishes isolated forms (FCD Types I and II) from those associated with another principal lesion (FCD Type III).**

|   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| FCD Type I (isolated)                           | Focal cortical dysplasia with abnormal radial cortical lamination (FCD Type Ia)                              | Focal cortical dysplasia with abnormal tangential cortical lamination (FCD Type Ib)         | Focal cortical dysplasia with abnormal radial and tangential cortical lamination (FCD Type Ic)   |
| FCD Type II (isolated)                          | Focal cortical dysplasia with dysmorphic neurons (FCD Type IIa)  | Focal cortical dysplasia with dysmorphic neurons and balloon cells (FCD Type IIb)           |  |
| FCD Type III (associated with principal lesion) | Cortical lamination abnormalities in the temporal lobe associated with hippocampal sclerosis (FCD Type IIIa) | Cortical lamination abnormalities adjacent to a glial or glioneuronal tumor (FCD Type IIIb) | Cortical lamination abnormalities adjacent to vascular malformation (FCD Type IIIc)  |
|   |  |   | Cortical lamination abnormalities adjacent to any other lesion acquired during early life, e.g., trauma, ischemic injury, encephalitis (FCD Type IIId) |

FCD Type III (not otherwise specified, NOS): if clinically/radiologically suspected principal lesion is not available for microscopic inspection.  
Please note that the rare association between FCD Types IIa and IIb with hippocampal sclerosis, tumors, or vascular malformations should not be classified as FCD Type III variant.

*Epilepsia*, 52(1):158–174, 2011

## Neuronal Migration



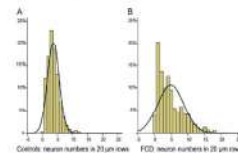
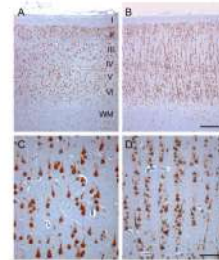
Acta Neuropathol (2005) 110: 1–11  
DOI 10.1007/s00401-005-1016-6

### REGULAR PAPER

Michelle Hildebrandt · Tom Pieper · Peter Winkler  
Dieter Kolodziejczyk · Hans Holthausen  
Ingmar Blümcke

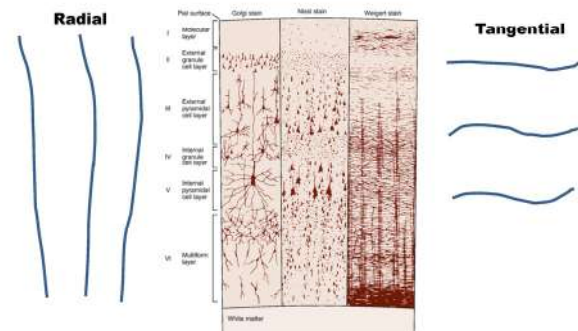
### Neuropathological spectrum of cortical dysplasia in children with severe focal epilepsies

Received: 15 November 2004 / Revised: 16 February 2005 / Accepted: 16 February 2005 / Published online: 17 June 2005  
© Springer-Verlag 2005



## FCD type I

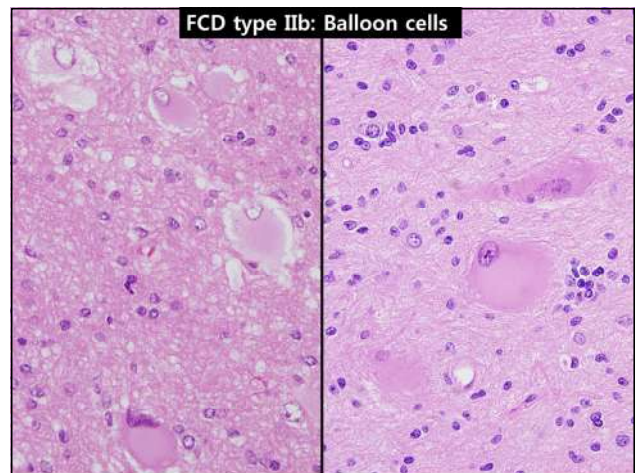
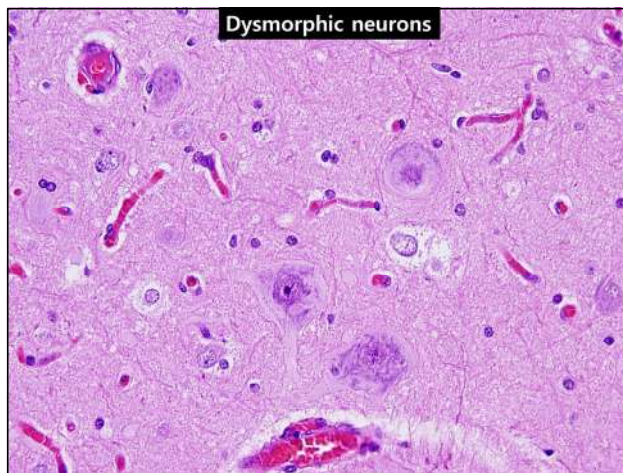
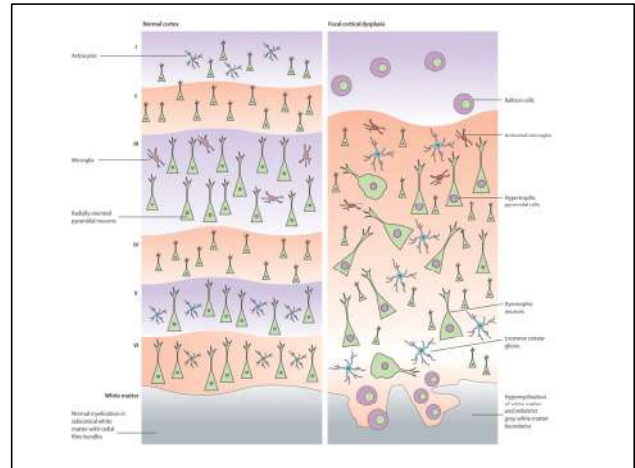
- Abnormal radial cortical lamination
- Abnormal tangential cortical lamination
- Abnormal radial and tangential cortical lamination





## FCD Type II

- Abnormal Cortical lamination
- **Dysmorphic neurons**
- **Balloon cells**



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Clinical Study

**Clinical characteristics and post-surgical outcomes of focal cortical dysplasia subtypes**

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**Table 3**  
Clinical characteristics of FCD type I, IIa and IIb patients

| n (%)                      | I       | IIa      | IIb      | p value <sup>a</sup> |
|----------------------------|---------|----------|----------|----------------------|
| Patients                   | 47      | 16       | 8        | N/A                  |
| Focal MRI                  | 8 (17)  | 8 (50)   | 4 (50)   | 0.014                |
| Transmantle sign           | 0 (0)   | 3 (21.4) | 5 (62.5) | N/A                  |
| EEG                        |         |          |          | 0.055                |
| Localize                   | 11 (23) | 7 (44)   | 5 (63)   | N/A                  |
| Regional                   | 22 (47) | 8 (50)   | 3 (38)   | N/A                  |
| Bilateral                  | 14 (30) | 1 (6)    | 0 (0)    | N/A                  |
| Site of surgery            |         |          |          | 0.001                |
| Temporal lobe              | 18 (38) | 4 (25)   | 0 (0)    |                      |
| Frontal lobe               | 9 (19)  | 5 (31)   | 3 (38)   |                      |
| Parietal lobe <sup>b</sup> | 10 (21) | 5 (31)   | 5 (63)   |                      |
| Occipital lobe             | 3 (6)   | 1 (6)    | 0 (0)    |                      |
| Multiple lobe resection    | 7 (15)  | 1 (6)    | 0 (0)    |                      |
| Seizure free               | 20 (43) | 10 (63)  | 6 (75)   | 0.133                |

## Weak points

- FCD type I especially Ic
- mMCD is not included
- Problems of FCD type III

## FCD type Ic

tangential cortical lamination. Histopathologic hallmarks are identical to those specified in Histopathologic findings. This FCD variant is diagnosed only as an isolated lesion and not in combination with any other pathology. It has to be clarified in the future, however, whether such lesions occur within patients with more widespread abnormalities linked to mental retardation and/or multiple congenital abnormality syndromes.

## Palmini et al. 2004

822 Childs Nerv Syst (2006) 22:821–826

**Table 1** Classification of cortical dysplasia in epilepsy

| Focal dysplasia type      | Subtype  | Main neuropathological features                               |
|---------------------------|----------|---|
| Mild MCD                  | Type I   | Heterotopic-excess neurons in layer I                         |
|                           | Type II  | Heterotopic-excess neurons outside layer I                    |
| FCD type I                | Type Ia  | Cortical dyslamination only (MCD features)                    |
|                           | Type Ib  | Cortical dyslamination + giant or immature neurons            |
| FCD type II (Taylor-type) | Type IIa | Cortical dyslamination + dysmorphic neurons                   |
|                           | Type IIb | Cortical dyslamination + dysmorphic neurons and balloon cells |

*FCD* Focal cortical dysplasia and MCD malformation of cortical development

## Heterotopic neurons in outside layer I

accumulation of neurofilament proteins. There are no balloon cells present (to be confirmed by immunohistochemistry). Discrimination of individual cortical layers is almost impossible (with the exception of layer I). Other cortical layer abnormalities are frequently encountered and should not be separately classified, including abnormal isocortical layer organization adjacent to the main lesion, as well as heterotopic neurons in layer I or white matter.

## mild MCD

tially) epileptogenic lesions (FCD Type III). We propose in addition that mild forms of cortical malformations (mMCDs) should be included in the classification, although their clinical impact will need further clarification (see below). Notwithstanding, any classification system using histopathologic examination will rely on sufficient and representative surgical tissue as well as standardized laboratory protocols (see Supporting Information).

N ENGL J MED 377;17 NEJM.ORG OCTOBER 26, 2017

THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

### Histopathological Findings in Brain Tissue Obtained during Epilepsy Surgery

I. Blumcke, R. Spreafico, G. Haaker, R. Coras, K. Kobow, C.G. Bien, M. Pfiffner, C. Elger, G. Widman, J. Schramm, A. Becker, K.P. Braun, F. Leijten, J.C. Baayen, E. Aronica, F. Chassoux, H. Hamer, H. Stefan, K. Rossier, M. Thom, M.C. Walker, S.M. Sisodia, J.S. Duncan, A.W. McEvoy, T. Pieper, H. Holthausen, M. Kuderlich, H.J. Meencke, P. Kahane, A. Schulze-Bonhage, J. Zentgraf, D.H. Heiland, H. Urbach, B.J. Steinhoff, T. Bast, L. Tassi, G. Lo Russo, C. Ozkara, B. Oz, P. Kirsch, S. Voglgesang, U. Runge, H. Lerche, Y. Weber, M. Honavar, J. Huentel, A. Arzimanoglou, A. Ulate-Campos, S. Noachtar, E. Hartt, O. Schyns, R. Guerrini, C. Barba, T.S. Jacques, J.H. Cross, M. Feucht, A. Mühlebner, T. Grunwald, E. Trinka, P.A. Winkler, A. Gil-Nagel, R. Toledano Delgado, T. Mayer, M. Lutz, B. Zoubzas, K. Garganis, F. Rosenow, A. Hermsen, T.J. von Oertzen, T.L. Diepgen, and G. Avanzini, for the EEBB Consortium\*

**Table 2. Summary of the 10 Most Common Histopathological Diagnoses among 9523 Patients Who Underwent Epilepsy Surgery.\***

| Diagnosis  | Category                             | Patients with Condition (N=9523)<br>no. (%) | Age at Onset of Seizures<br>years | Duration of Epilepsy<br>years | Localization<br>lobe | %     |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|-------|
| Hippocampal sclerosis                            | Hippocampal sclerosis                | 3463 (36.4)                                 | 11.3±10.1                         | 22.5±12.7                     | Temporal             | 100.0 |
| Ganglioglioma                                    | Tumor                                | 986 (10.4)                                  | 12.1±10.3                         | 11.4±10.4                     | Temporal             | 82.5  |
| Focal cortical dysplasia type II                 | Malformation of cortical development | 859 (9.0)                                   | 5.6±6.9                           | 14.0±11.7                     | Frontal              | 51.6  |
| No lesion  | No lesion                            | 738 (7.7)                                   | 13.0±10.6                         | 15.4±10.6                     | Temporal             | 67.7  |
| Dysembryoplastic neuroepithelial tumor           | Tumor                                | 565 (5.9)                                   | 14.0±10.9                         | 12.0±10.7                     | Temporal             | 68.1  |
| Glial scar                                       | Glial scar                           | 461 (4.8)                                   | 10.7±10.3                         | 14.8±11.1                     | Temporal             | 37.1  |
| Cavernous angioma                                | Vascular malformation                | 431 (4.5)                                   | 25.4±13.0                         | 12.3±11.2                     | Temporal             | 74.7  |
| Mild malformation of cortical development        | Malformation of cortical development | 279 (2.9)                                   | 9.6±10.0                          | 13.7±11.5                     | Temporal             | 49.1  |
| Focal cortical dysplasia type I                  | Malformation of cortical development | 268 (2.8)                                   | 7.4±9.6                           | 9.3±8.1                       | Temporal             | 35.1  |
| Focal cortical dysplasia not otherwise specified | Malformation of cortical development | 206 (2.2)                                   | 8.0±8.0                           | 13.4±11.5                     | Temporal             | 45.1  |
| Total  |                                      | 8256 (86.7)                                 | 11.6±10.8                         | 17±12.6                       | Temporal             | 71.9  |

\* Plus-minus values are means ±SD. A full list of diagnoses is provided in Table S2 in the Supplementary Appendix.

† Data are the lobe in which surgery was most commonly performed for each condition and the percentage of cases in which surgery was performed in that lobe.

Epilepsia, 53(8):1341-1348, 2012  
doi:10.1111/j.1528-1167.2012.03508.x**FULL-LENGTH ORIGINAL RESEARCH****Good interobserver and intraobserver agreement in the evaluation of the new ILAE classification of focal cortical dysplasias**

\*Roland Coras, †Onno J. de Boer, ‡Dawn Armstrong, §Albert Becker, ¶Thomas S. Jacques, #Hajime Miyata, \*\*Maria Thom, ††Harry V. Vinters, ‡‡Roberto Spreafico, §§Buge Oz, ¶¶Gianluca Marucci, ##Jose Pimentel, \*\*\*Angelika Mühlbauer, †††Josef Zarnitsch, ††††Anna Maria Buccoliero, §§§Fabio Rogério, ¶¶¶Nathalie Streichenberger, #####Nobutaka Arai, \*\*\*\*Marianna Bugiani, †††Silke Vogelgesang, ††††Rob Macaulay, §§§§Carolyn Salon, ¶¶¶¶Volkmann Hans, #####Marc Polivka, \*\*\*\*Felice Giangaspero, †††††Dyah Fauziah, †††††Jang-Hee Kim, §§§§Lei Liu, ¶¶¶¶¶Wang Dandan, #####Jing Gao, \*\*\*\*Benjamin Lindeboom, †††††Ingmar Blümcke, and \*\*\*\*Eleonora Aronica

**Good interobserver and intraobserver agreement in the evaluation of the new ILAE classification of focal cortical dysplasias, Eleonora Aronica et al. (2012) Epilepsia, 53(8):1341-1348****Table 2. Interobserver agreement in the first, second, and third evaluation rounds per FCD types (κ values)**

| Round | FCD Ia | FCD Ib | FCD Ic  | FCD IIa | FCD IIb | FCD IIc | FCD IIId | No FCD | Mean   |
|-------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|--------|--------|
| 1     | 0.4821 | 0.3877 | 0.1319  | 1.0000  | 1.0000  | 0.8316  | 0.4869   | 0.3746 | 0.5448 |
| 2     | 0.5996 | 0.4287 | -0.006* | 1.0000  | 0.9565  | 0.7925  | 0.5113   | 0.3463 | 0.6164 |
| 3†    | 0.7252 | 0.5197 | 0.1509  | 1.0000  | 0.9452  | 0.8422  | 0.6407   | 0.1800 | 0.7400 |
| 3A    | 0.4220 | 0.4323 | 0.3438  | 0.5252  | 0.7438  | 0.7195  | 0.6101   | 0.2951 | 0.5056 |
| 3B    | 0.3185 | 0.1071 | 0.1608  | 0.4311  | 0.8553  | 0.5063  | 0.4451   | 0.5981 | 0.5177 |
| 3C    | 0.3763 | 0.0778 | 0.2137  | 0.3307  | 0.7136  | 0.4911  | 0.2171   | 0.4718 | 0.1955 |

††, summary of third evaluation round including all 21 neuropathologists; 3A, neuropathologists with level A access to &gt;40 epilepsy surgery cases/year; 3B, neuropathologists reviewing 10–40 cases/year; 3C, neuropathologists seeing &lt;10 cases/year.

\*Kappa values were scored as follows: &lt;0.2, poor agreement; 0.2–&lt;0.4, fair agreement (yellow boxes); 0.4–&lt;0.6, moderate agreement (purple boxes); 0.6–&lt;0.8, good agreement (green boxes); 0.8–1.0, very good agreement (blue boxes).

\*Kappa values can be negative in rare situations indicating that the observers agreed less than expected by chance.

**Table 3. Intraobserver reproducibility in the ILAE classification system**

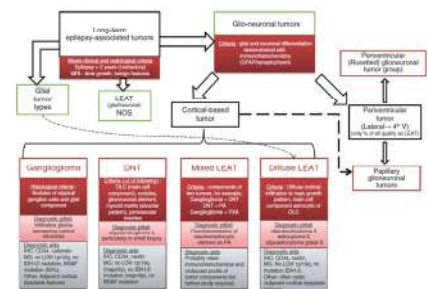
| NP      | Unchanged diagnosis | Changed diagnosis on reevaluation | κ             |
|---------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| 1       | 23/25               | 2/25                              | 0.8575        |
| 2       | 16/25               | 9/25                              | 0.5849        |
| 3       | 18/25               | 7/25                              | 0.7180        |
| 4       | 20/25               | 5/25                              | 0.7617        |
| 5       | 23/25               | 2/25                              | 0.8819        |
| 6       | 19/25               | 6/25                              | 0.7368        |
| 7       | 25/25               | 0/25                              | 1.0000        |
| 8       | 14/25               | 11/25                             | 0.4991        |
| 9       | 23/25               | 2/25                              | 1.0000        |
| Summary | 183/225             | 42/225                            | 0.7824 (mean) |

NP, neuropathologist.

Kappa values were interpreted as follows: &lt;0.2, poor agreement; 0.2–&lt;0.4, fair agreement; 0.4–&lt;0.6, moderate agreement; 0.6–&lt;0.8, good agreement; 0.8–1.0, very good agreement.

Intraobserver: good agreement  
( $k = 0.7824, 0.4991$  to  $1.0000$ ). (09'  $k = 0.5062$ )  
Interobserver: moderate~ low, reflected by the level of experience ( $k = 0.5056$  to  $0.3265$ )  
(09'  $k = 0.4654$ – $0.8504$ )

Brain Pathology ISSN 1015-6305

**MINI-SYMPOSIUM: Etiologies of Focal Epilepsy****Long-Term Epilepsy-Associated Tumors**Maria Thom<sup>1</sup>; Ingmar Blümcke<sup>2</sup>; Eleonora Aronica<sup>3,4</sup><sup>1</sup> Department of Clinical and Experimental Epilepsy, UCL, Institute of Neurology, Queen Square, London, UK.<sup>2</sup> Department of Neurosurgery, University Hospital Erlangen, Erlangen, Germany.<sup>3</sup> Department of Neurology, Academic Medical Center, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.<sup>4</sup> SEN-Epilepsy Institute in the Netherlands Foundation, Heemstede, The Netherlands.**ILAE Task Force for Neuropathology: LEAT study group First round**

38 Raters were invited to review 30 LEAT cases from EEBB (Erlangen, Germany)  
25 Raters have responded within given time frame of 6 weeks  
12 Tumors (40%) reached above/equal 75% agreement (> 19 raters)  
18 Tumors (60%) had less than 75% agreement (< 19 raters)  
WHO grading was also inconsistent (i.e. from 1° to 3° for same sample)

**Agreement cases included**

6 DNET (WHO 1°) with specific glio-neuronal element  
6 Gangliogliomas (WHO 1°) with distinct neuronal component

**Conclusion****Agreement for the microscopic diagnosis of LEAT needs improvement****URGENTLY****Proposal for a new terminology use for long-term epilepsy associated brain tumors**

Every fourth patient submitted to epilepsy surgery suffers from a brain tumor. Microscopically, these neoplasms present with a wide-ranging spectrum of glial or glio-neuronal tumor subtypes. Gangliogliomas (GG) and dysembryoplastic neuroepithelial tumors (DNET) are the most frequently recognized entities accounting for 65% of 1551 tumors collected at the European Epilepsy Brain Bank (n=5842 epilepsy surgery samples). These tumors often present with early seizure onset at a mean age of 16.5 years, with 77% of neoplasms affecting the temporal lobe. Relapse and malignant progression are rare events in this particular group of brain tumors. Surgical resection should be regarded, therefore, also as important treatment strategy to prevent epilepsy progression as well as seizure- and medication-related comorbidities. The characteristic clinical presentation and



Table 3: Terminology proposal for long-term epilepsy associated tumors

| WHO               | ILAE <sup>a</sup> | CD34     | MAP2 glial | MAP2 neuronal    | IDH1   |
|-------------------|-------------------|----------|------------|------------------|--------|
| ANET <sup>2</sup> | ANET <sup>2</sup> | -        | +/-        | Preexisting      | -      |
| GG <sup>3</sup>   | BNET*             | +        | +/-        | Dysplastic       | -      |
| DNET <sup>4</sup> | CNET <sup>4</sup> | f.c.t.c. | f.c.t.c.   | f.c.t.c.         | -      |
| DNET <sup>5</sup> | DNET <sup>5</sup> | -        | +/-        | floating neurons | -      |
| -                 | ENET*             | -        | +/-        | +/-              | t.b.d. |
| GG <sup>3</sup>   | GNET*             | -        | -          | Dysplastic       | -      |
| A II <sup>6</sup> | INET*             | -        | -          | Preexisting      | -      |

## ILAE Task Force for Neuropathology: LEAT study group **Second** round

25 (same as round 1) Raters were invited to review 30 LEAT cases from EEBB (Erlangen, Germany)  
 20 Raters have responded within given time frame of 6 weeks  
 14 Tumors (47%) reached above/equal 75% agreement  
 18 Tumors (53%) had less than 75% agreement

### Conclusion

**Agreement for the microscopic diagnosis of LEAT slightly improved (>>> CD34 positive tumors), but still needs improvement !!**

**Third LEAT agreement round to be envisaged**



## ILAE Classification of Focal Cortical Dysplasia

### ILAE classification of Focal Cortical Dysplasia - an update (ILAE survey from the FCD Task Force)

The Diagnostic Methods commission of the ILAE released a first international consensus classification of Focal Cortical Dysplasia (FCD) in 2011. Since that time, the FCD classification has been widely used in clinical diagnosis and research. A new Task Force was launched in September 2017 to critically review the current FCD classification and to identify areas in need of a revision or update. As eminent examples, there are recent discoveries in molecular-genetics in FCDs that may require clarification for use in clinical practice; also, electro-clinical-imaging phenotypes and surgical outcomes have been further defined or validated.

We need you to help us identify areas in need for an update or revision of the FCD classification to better serve its clinical purpose. Please take a few minutes to answer the 16 questions of our survey below. Be assured that all answers will be strictly kept anonymous.

#### 1. Do you use the ILAE classification of FCD (2011) in your clinical practice and/or research projects?

- ☐ No (please proceed to Q9)  
☐ Yes (please help us to better understand subtype frequencies by answering all questions)

#### 2. Please estimate % of FCD subtypes from all FCD I and II patients in your practice (i.e. 2017). One answer per row.

|             | <20%                  | 20 - 50%              | >50%                  |
|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| FCD Type I  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| FCD Type II | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

#### 3. Please estimate % of FCD I subtypes in your practice. One answer per row.

|             | virtually never       | <20%                  | 20 - 50%              | >50%                  |
|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| FCD Type Ia | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| FCD Type Ib | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| FCD Type Ic | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

#### 4. Do you recommend genetic testing from blood and brain samples for the diagnosis of FCD?

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

#### 5. Do you classify associated FCD III according to the ILAE classification 2011?

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

#### 6. Please estimate % of principal lesions associated with FCD III in your practice. One answer per row

|                     | virtually never       | <20%                  | 20 - 50%              | >50%                  |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| FCD IIIa (HS)       | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| FCD IIIb (tumor)    | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| FCD IIIc (vascular) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| FCD IIId (other)    | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

#### 7. Do you use the diagnosis of mild malformations of cortical development (mMCD as defined by the Palmini classification 2004 and ILAE classification 2011)?

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

#### 8. How often do you classify mMCD (in comparison to FCD)?

- ☐ Less often than FCD  
☐ Same as FCD  
☐ More often than FCD

#### 9. Which topic(s) of the FCD classification do you think require revision (multiple answers allowed and please feel free to tell us any further thoughts or comments)?

- ☐ FCD I  
☐ FCD II  
☐ FCD III  
☐ mMCD  
☐ Genetics

Do you have any further thoughts or comments about any of your choices above?



10. For neuro / histopathologists: Do you routinely use IHC for the diagnosis of FCD? (multiple answers allowed)

- ☐ No (IHC only)  
☐ Yes: neuronal marker proteins (e.g. NeuN, MAP2, Synaptophysin or other)  
☐ Yes: neurofilaments  
☐ Yes: glial marker proteins (GFAP, Olig2, CNPase or other)  
☐ Yes: inflammatory cells (CD3, CD4, CD8, CD20, CD45, CD68 or any other)  
☐ Not in this list

11. For neuro / histopathologists: Do you use IHC for diagnosis of brain tumors?

- ☐ No  
☐ Yes

12. For neuro / histopathologists: Do you have knowledge about ILAE recommendations for histopathology work-up of epilepsy surgery tissue (as published in Epilepsia 2016; 57(3):348-358)?

- ☐ No  
☐ Yes

13. For neuro / histopathologists: Do you apply ILAE recommendations for histopathology work-up as specified in the ILAE recommendations cited above?

- ☐ No  
☐ Yes

14. For neuro / histopathologists: Do you archive frozen tissue for further use in epilepsy research?

- ☐ No  
☐ Yes

15. Please tell us the region of your ILAE chapter (anonymously)

- ☐ Northern America  
☐ Latin America  
☐ Europe  
☐ Asia and Oceania  
☐ Africa  
☐ Eastern Mediterranean