

# Classification of “Neurological Spells”: Focusing on Epileptic Seizures

## Neurological Spell

### Seizure

### Other spell

#### Non-epileptic, organic/provoked seizures

- Metabolic (hypoglycemia, hyponatremia, etc)
- Stroke-induced
- Drugs
- Withdrawal (alcohol, benzo’s, barbituates)
- Febrile seizure (Etc)

#### Epileptic Seizure

*(unprovoked/spontaneous, hypersynchronous discharge of brain neurons; recurrent in predisposed patients).*

- Syncope
- TIA
- Migrane
- Movement disorder
- Psychiatric (i.e. conversion disorder, panic attack)

#### Partial (i.e. Focal)

*(seizure originates within networks in ONE hemisphere, effects localized to on portion or side of the body)*

#### Mixed (unclassified)

#### General

*(Seizure arises within bilateral networks in both hemispheres, affects the entire body)*

#### Simple partial/focal

- (pt is aware of seizure, can control it)*
- **Motor**
  - **Sensory** (*aura, déjà vu, inappropriate emotions, etc*)
  - **Autonomic** (*Sweating, palpitations in short durations – i.e. 30s*)
  - **Psychic**

#### Complex Partial (i.e. Focal Seizure with Dyscognitive features)

*(Pt loses consciousness, unresponsive to health staff, etc)*

#### Simple or Complex partial, with secondary generalization

*(started off localized/focal, then progressed to bilateral brain hemispheres, with effects spreading across entire body)*

#### Convulsive

- **Myoclonic**: *electric-shock-like muscle jerks*
- **Clonic**: *involuntary rhythmic muscle contractions, like clonus*
- **Tonic**: *slow, non-moving muscle contractions*
- **Tonic-Clonic (grand mal seizures)**: *sudden skeletal muscle rigidity for a few seconds, followed by convulsive contractions of skeletal muscle*

#### Non-convulsive

- **Absence (*petit mal seizures; typical + atypical*)**
- **Atonic**