



Indications for an EEG

The EEG is used as an aid to clinical medicine and is a laboratory tool which, if utilized in its proper reference, may help clarify many puzzling clinical pictures. Well-established clinical uses of the EEG are found in the fields of Neurology, Neurosurgery, Internal Medicine and Pediatrics.

- A) **Altered consciousness** - such as stuporous, semi-comatose or comatose states.
- B) **Seizure disorders** - especially atypical seizure variants in patients experiencing bizarre, distressing symptoms.
- C) **Tumors** - suspected tumor where focal slowing is found.
- D) **Head Trauma** - injury where slowing or suppression of voltage production is due to a contusion or a subdural hematoma.
- E) **Headaches** - such as with migraine syndrome, where there may be a suggestive EEG pattern.
- F) **Brain Abscess** - differential diagnosis of diffuse versus focal inflammatory disease.
- G) **Metabolic encephalopathy** - where characteristic triphasic slow waves may be present.
- H) **Behavioral Disorders** – Psychiatric evaluations.
- I) **Adolescent disorders** - such as ADD, ADHD, depression or anxiety issues.
- J) **Intermittent Explosive Disorder** - The disorder typically starts at age 14 and is often followed by other mental health problems, the researchers note. They call for early detection, outreach, and treatment - possibly starting in schools.
- K) **Obsessive Compulsive Disorder** - type of anxiety disorder, is a potentially disabling illness that traps people in endless cycles of repetitive thoughts and behaviors.
- L) **Anxiety & Panic Disorder** - often come on suddenly and without warning, though studies have shown that attacks are sometimes precipitated by highly stressful events
- M) **Bi-Polar Disorder** - extreme changes in mood - from mania to depression. A person with Bipolar disorder may experience normal moods between mood swings.
- N) **Restless Legs Syndrome** - is a disorder of the part of the nervous system that affects movements of the legs.
- O) **Shaken Baby Syndrome** - is a form of child abuse which refers to brain injury that happens to the child.
- P) **ETOH** - an effect caused by cessation or reduction in the amount of the substance used. Withdrawal can range from mild anxiety to seizures and hallucinations

Below are several abbreviations for symptoms that should be considered for an EEG:

**Sz / TIA / COPD / ADD / ADHD / Syncope / Anxiety / Altered Mental Status / LOC / Ha /
OCD / IED / Bi-Polar / RLS / SBS / ETOH**