Insular interictal PET hypometabolism in patients with ictal asystole

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BRIEF SUMMARY

We aimed to explore brain area(s) involved in the generation of ictal asystole (IA) by analysing the interictal ¹⁸F-FDG PET metabolism of patients with IA recorded by video-EEG or video-SEEG.

We investigated the metabolic changes of 12 patients with IA (mostly with temporal epilepsy and "negative" MRI) in comparison with 1) 19 healthy subjects (similar age and sex), 2) 55 patients without IA (similar age and seizure onset zone).

Whole-brain statistical analysis of PET at the voxel-level, showed that in comparison to healthy subjects and to patients without IA, a hypometabolism in the right posterior insula characterized patients with IA.