

# The amplitudeintegrated EEG in Neonatology



**Karl Florian Schettler**  
Senior Physician Neonatology  
Perinatal Care Center Landshut  
Childrens Hospital St. Marien  
Teaching affiliate of the  
Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Munich

Contact: [Karl.Florian@Schettler.eu](mailto:Karl.Florian@Schettler.eu)

Ist Annual European  NIHON KOHDEN Meeting  
Hurghada, Egypt

# Monitoring - Changing times



# Assessment of brain function

## *Electrophysiological*

- Clinical (Sarnat or Thompson Score, CFI)

- Imaging (MRI, Ultrasound, CT)
- Electrophysiological with (EEG)

amplitudeintegrated EEG (aEEG)

# So why aEEG ?

# aEEG vs. EEG

## **aEEG / CFM**

Available immediately

Long term monitoring

No details

pattern recognition

## **konv. EEG**

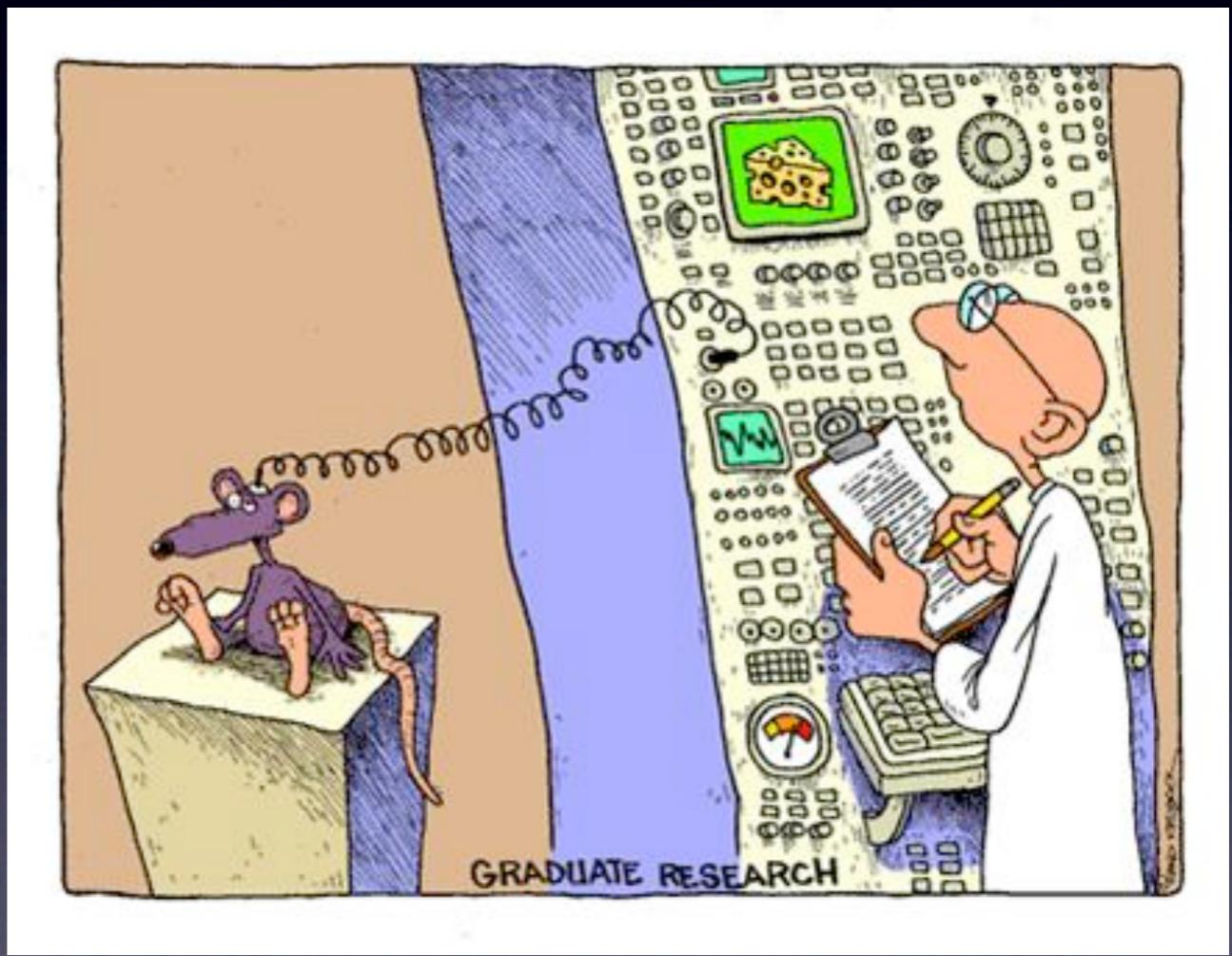
Not always available

Short term monitoring

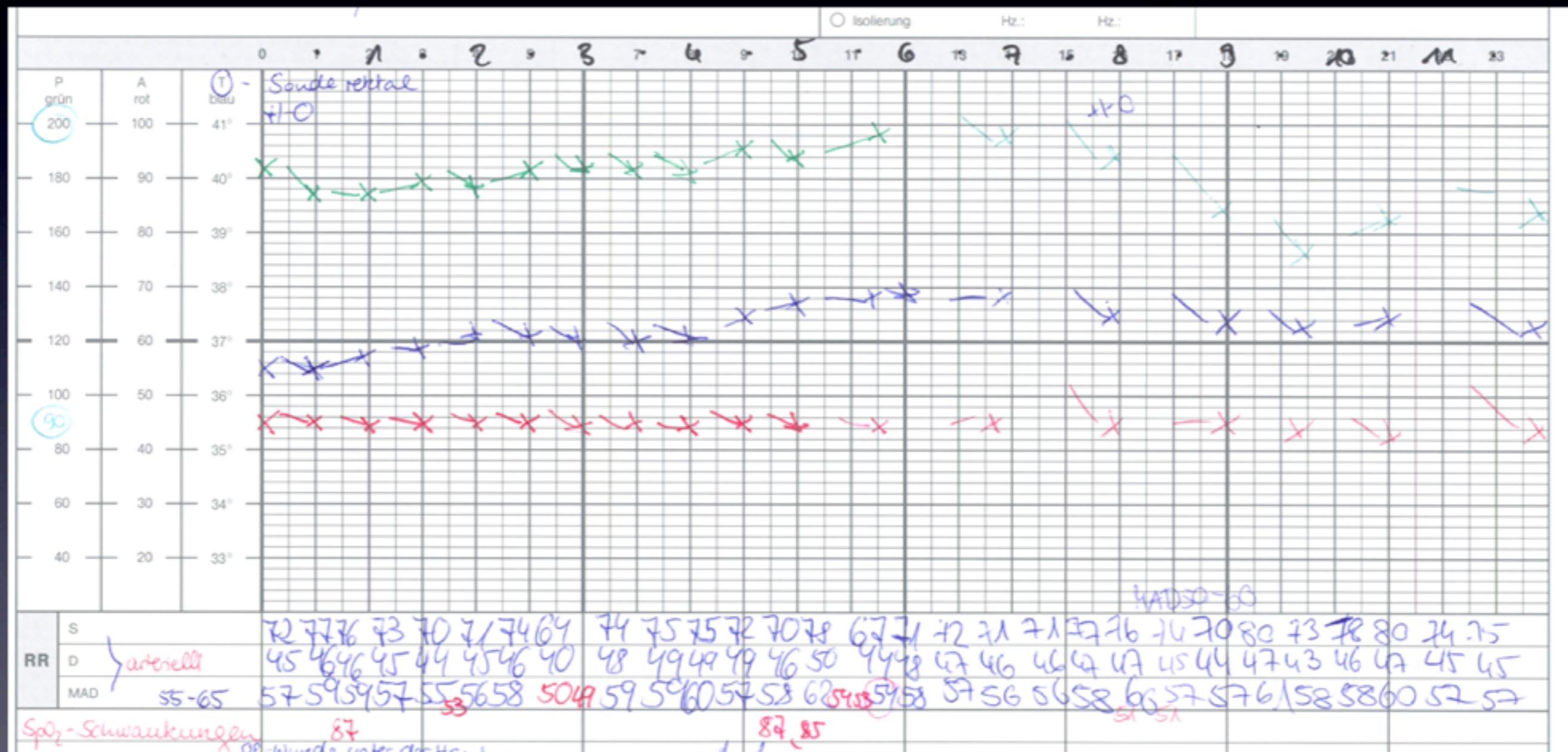
Many details

Difficult interpretation

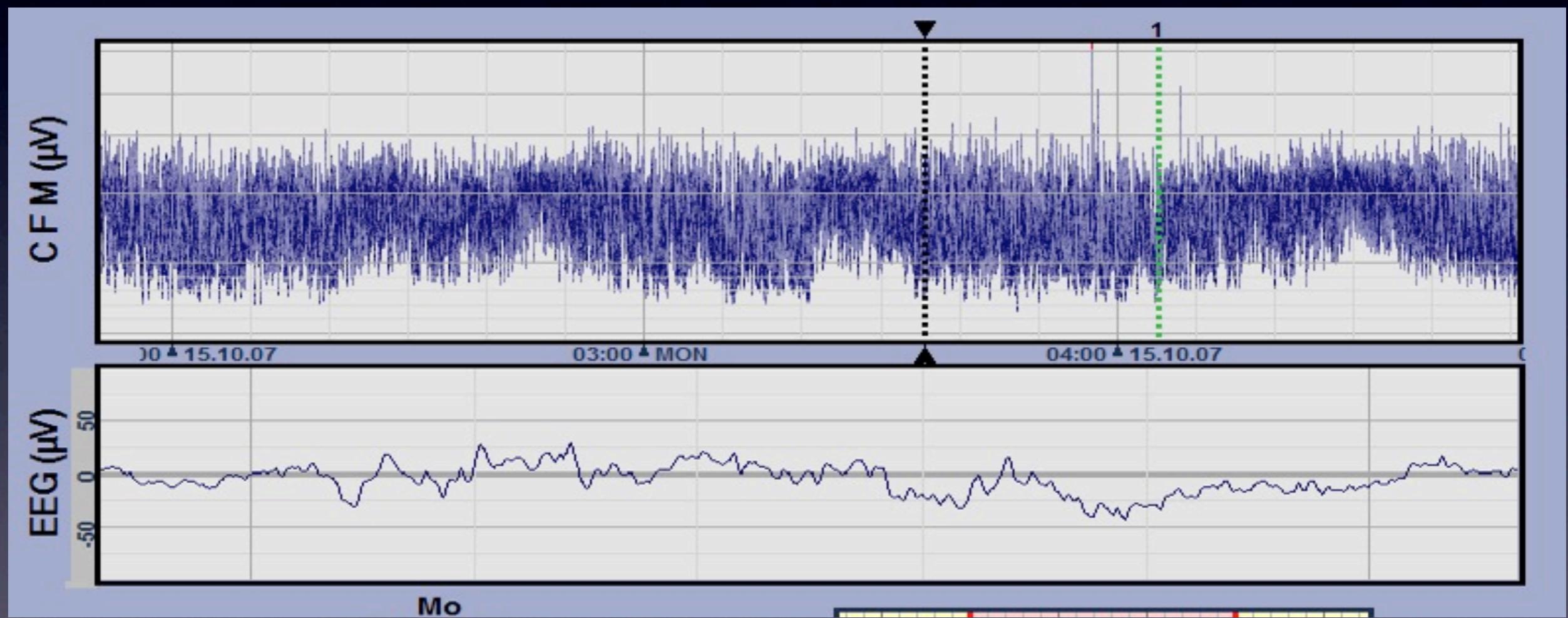
# Key experiences



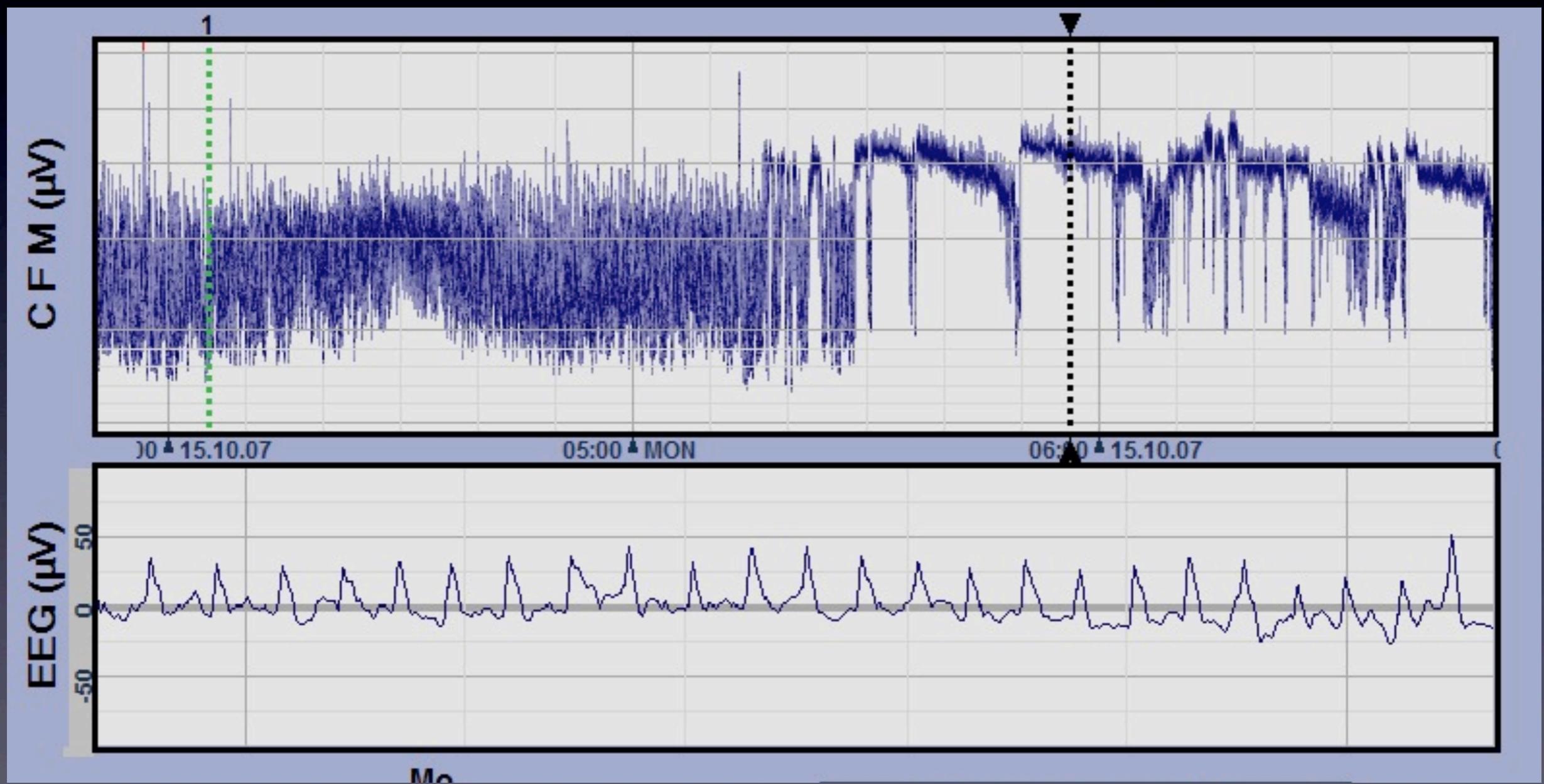
# Key experiences



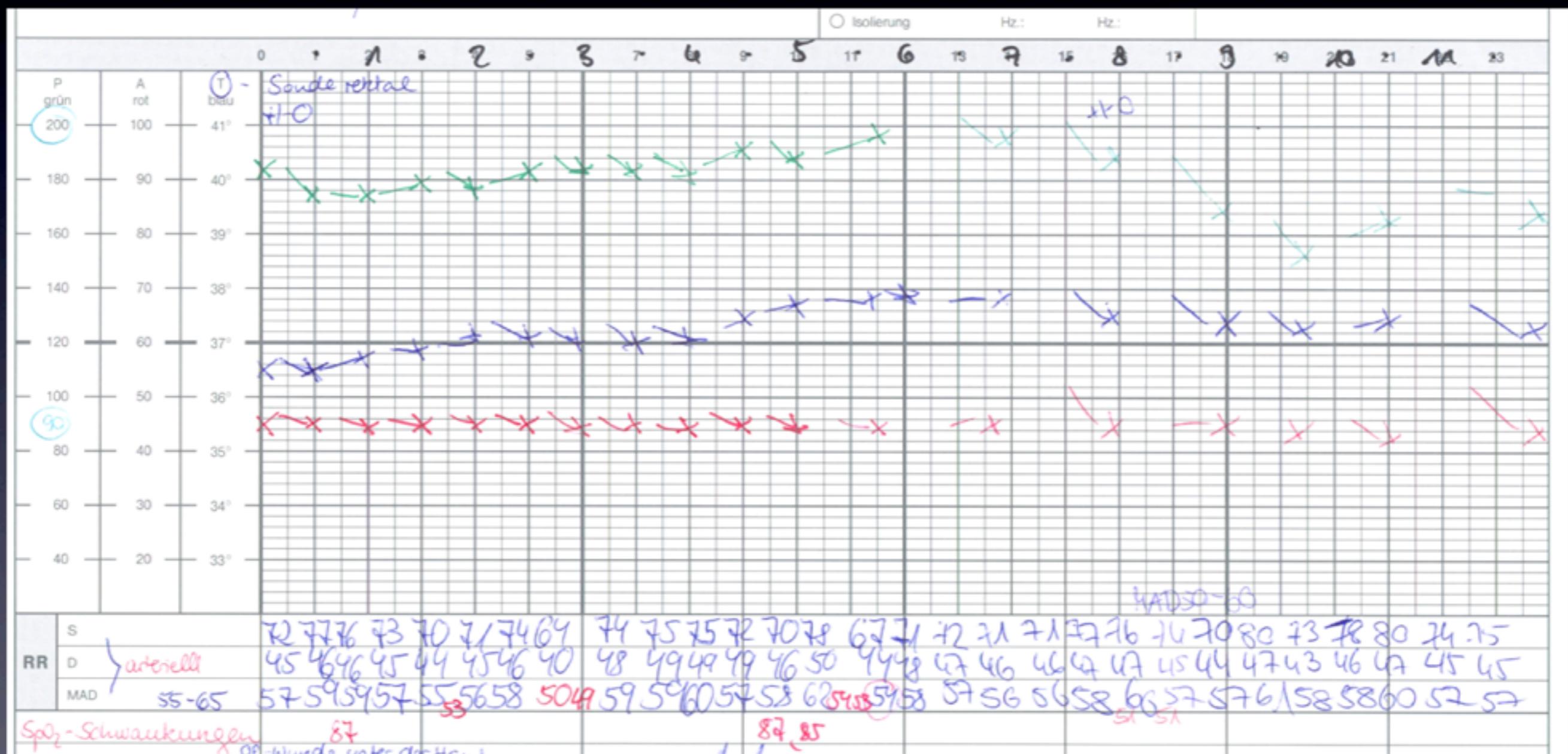
# Key experiences



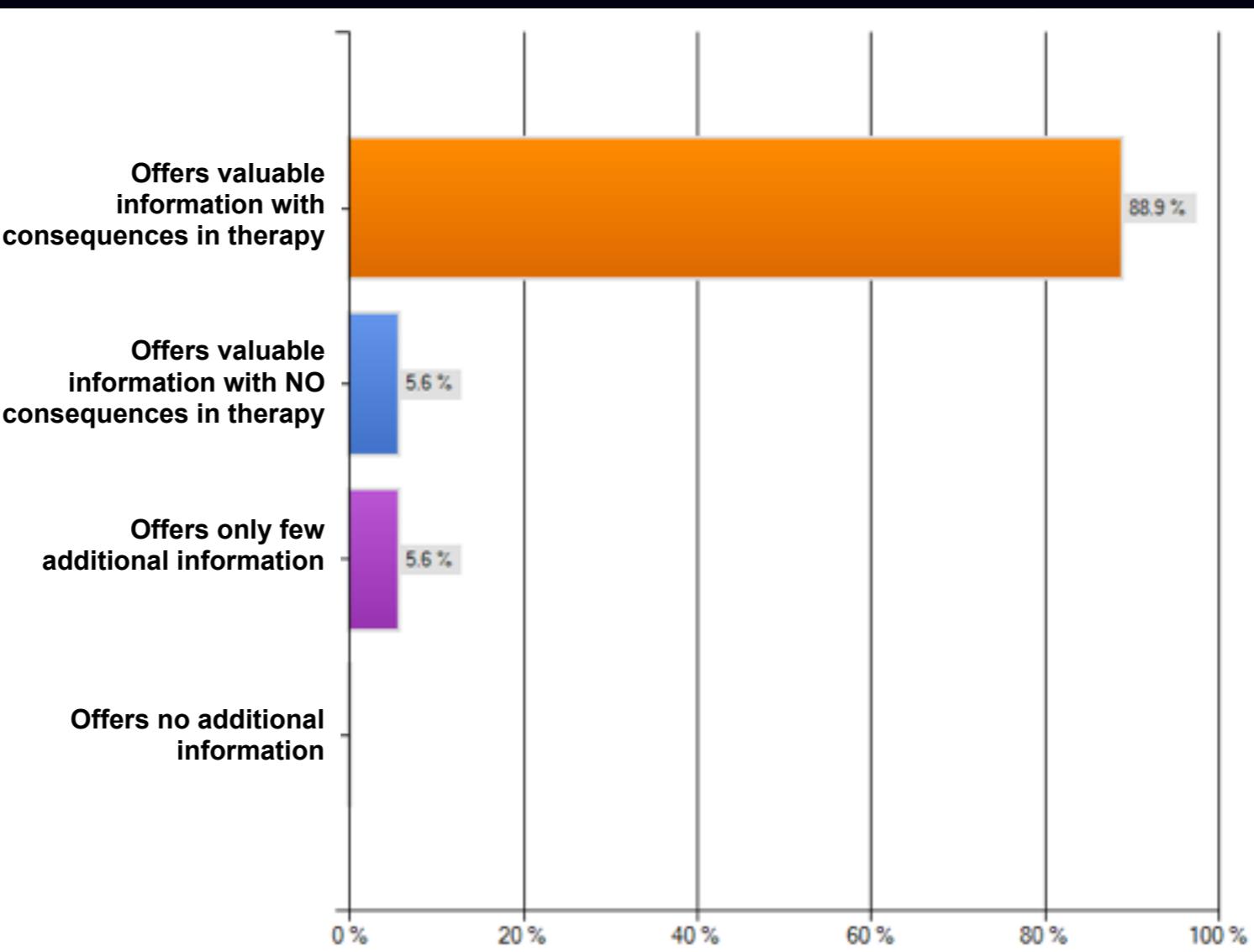
# Key experiences



# Key experiences



# What is the general feeling about aEEG in your unit



# Neonatologist landing at Neuroconference



# Typical arguments against aEEG

About half of all cerebral seizures were not detected by non-  
EEG-experts

[Rennie JM et al. Arch Dis Child Fetal Neonatal Ed, 2004]

focal, low-amplitude or short episodes of neonatal seizures  
were unrecognized

[Toel et al. Pediatrics 109, 2002]

Careful: continuous 'spikes' often missed, if raw-EEG is not  
looked at

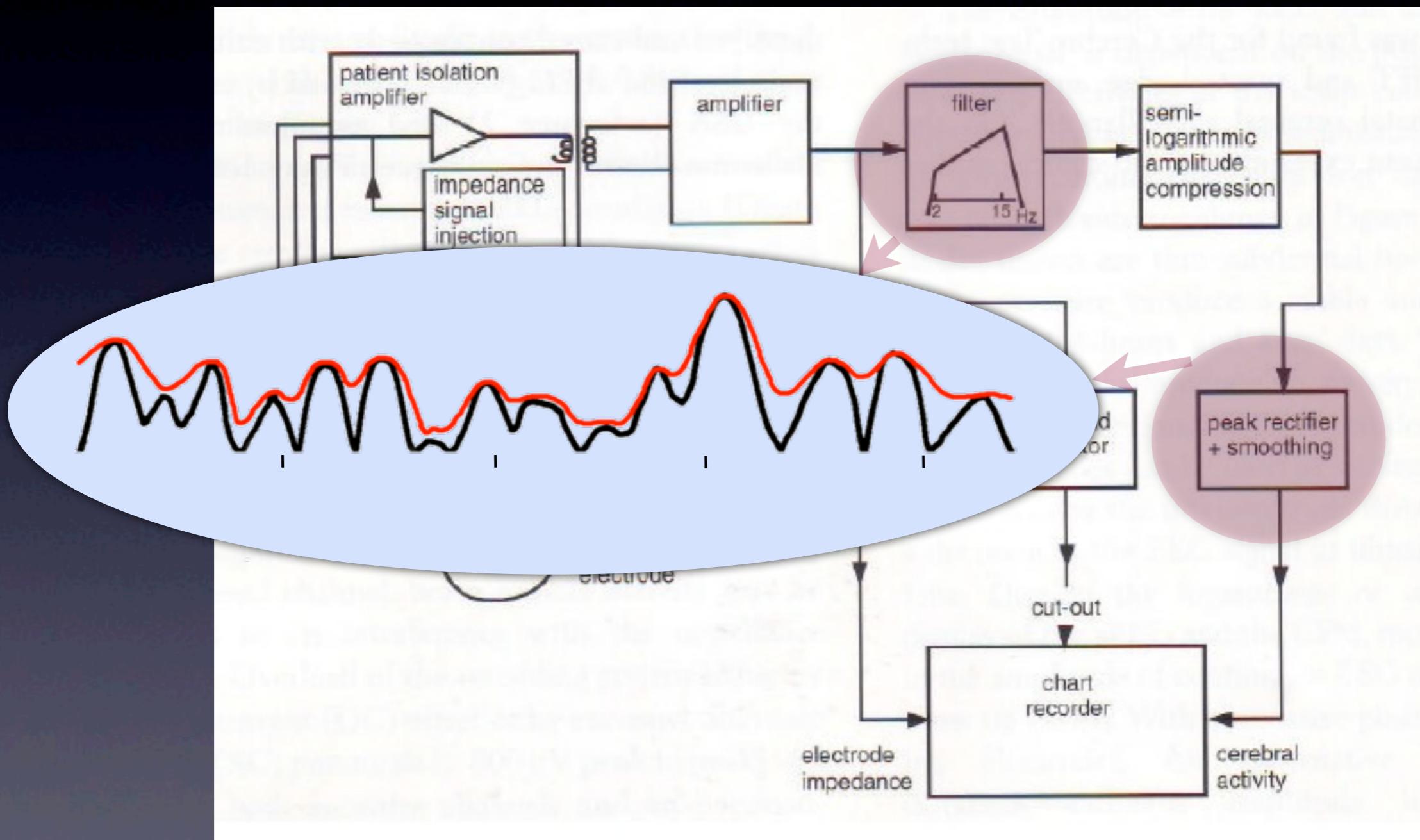
[Rosen. Clinics in Perinatology 2006; 33: 593-611]

No information about EEG-frequency and brain activity  
outside of electrodes region

# A little history...

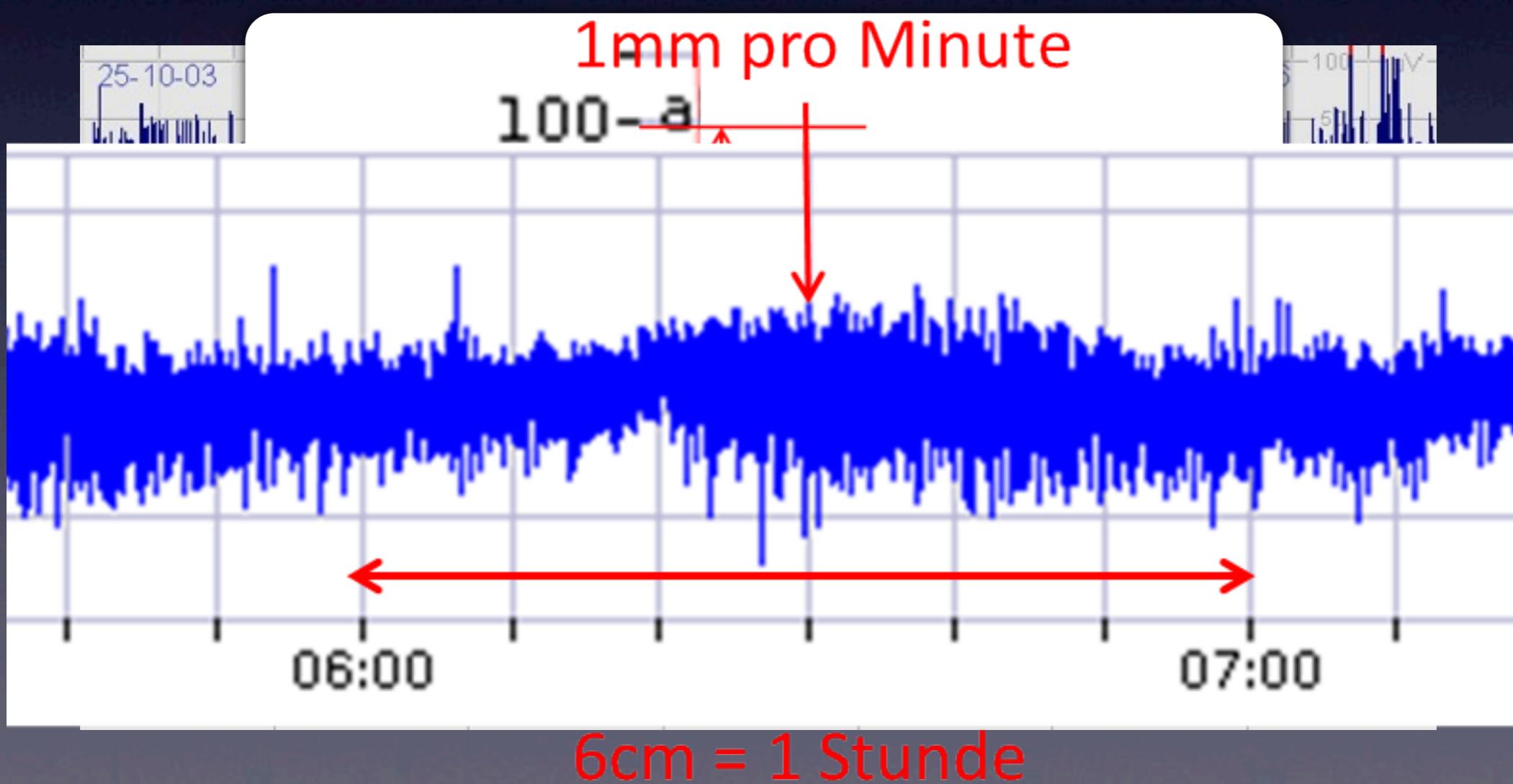
- ◆ developed in the 60s by Maynard and used by Prior in adults [Prior, Maynard. BMJ 1969; 4: 545-6]
- ◆ used in newborns by the end of 70s to beginning of the 80s [Viniker, Maynard, Scott. Clin. Electroencephalogr 1984; 15: 185-92]
- ◆ Renaissance since begin of 90s with digital display and including raw EEG and its use in the hypothermia studies like the cool-cap trial

# Technical background



# The recording

- reflects minimum and maximum amplitude of „raw“ EEG
- semilogarithmic: linear 0-10  $\mu$ V, log. 10-100  $\mu$ V
- time compressed 6cm per hour



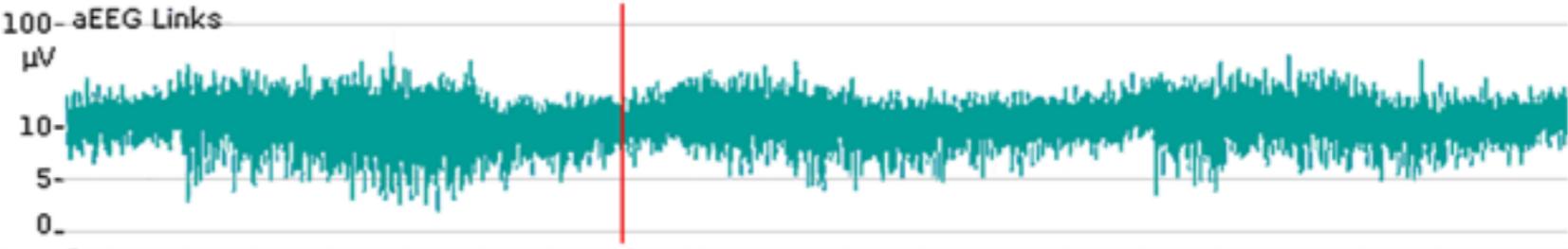
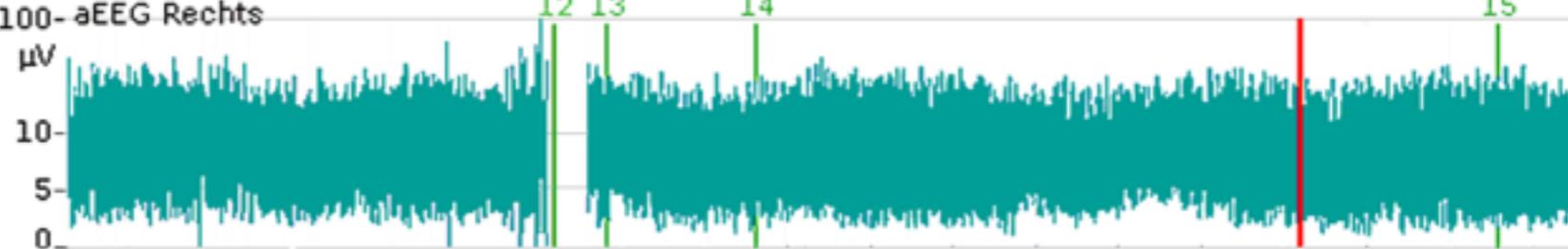
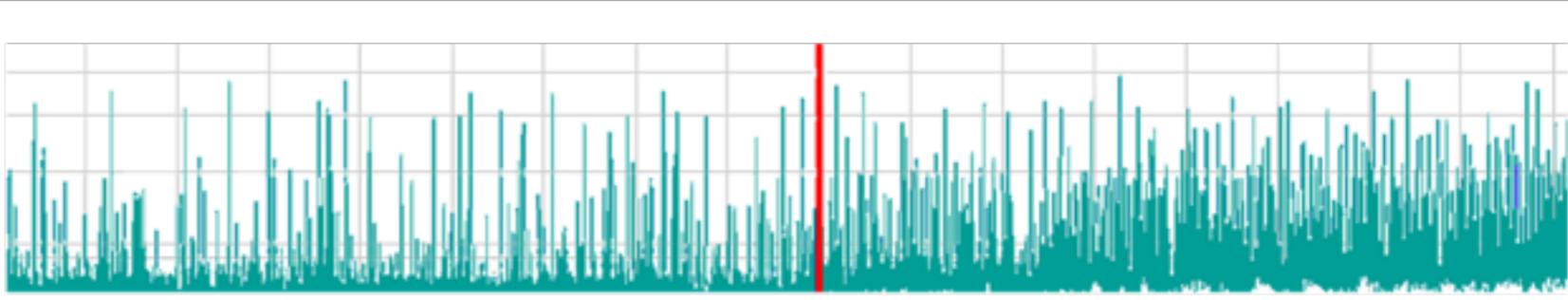
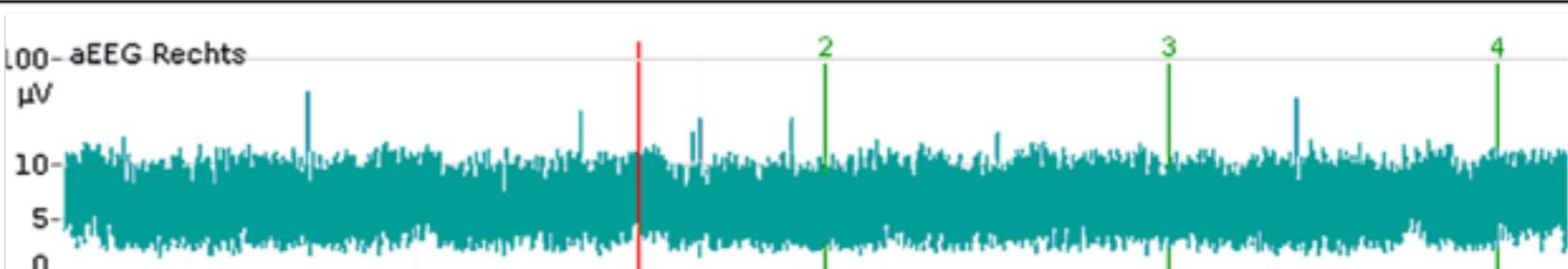
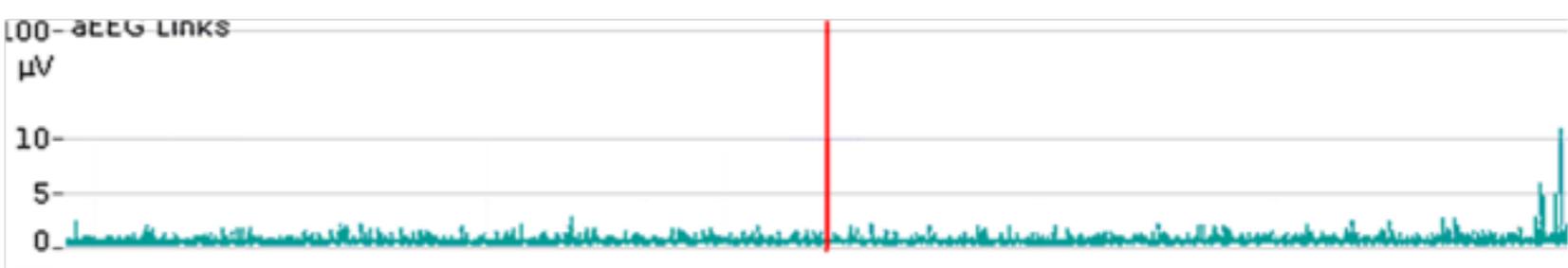
# Assessment of an aEEG

Background activity

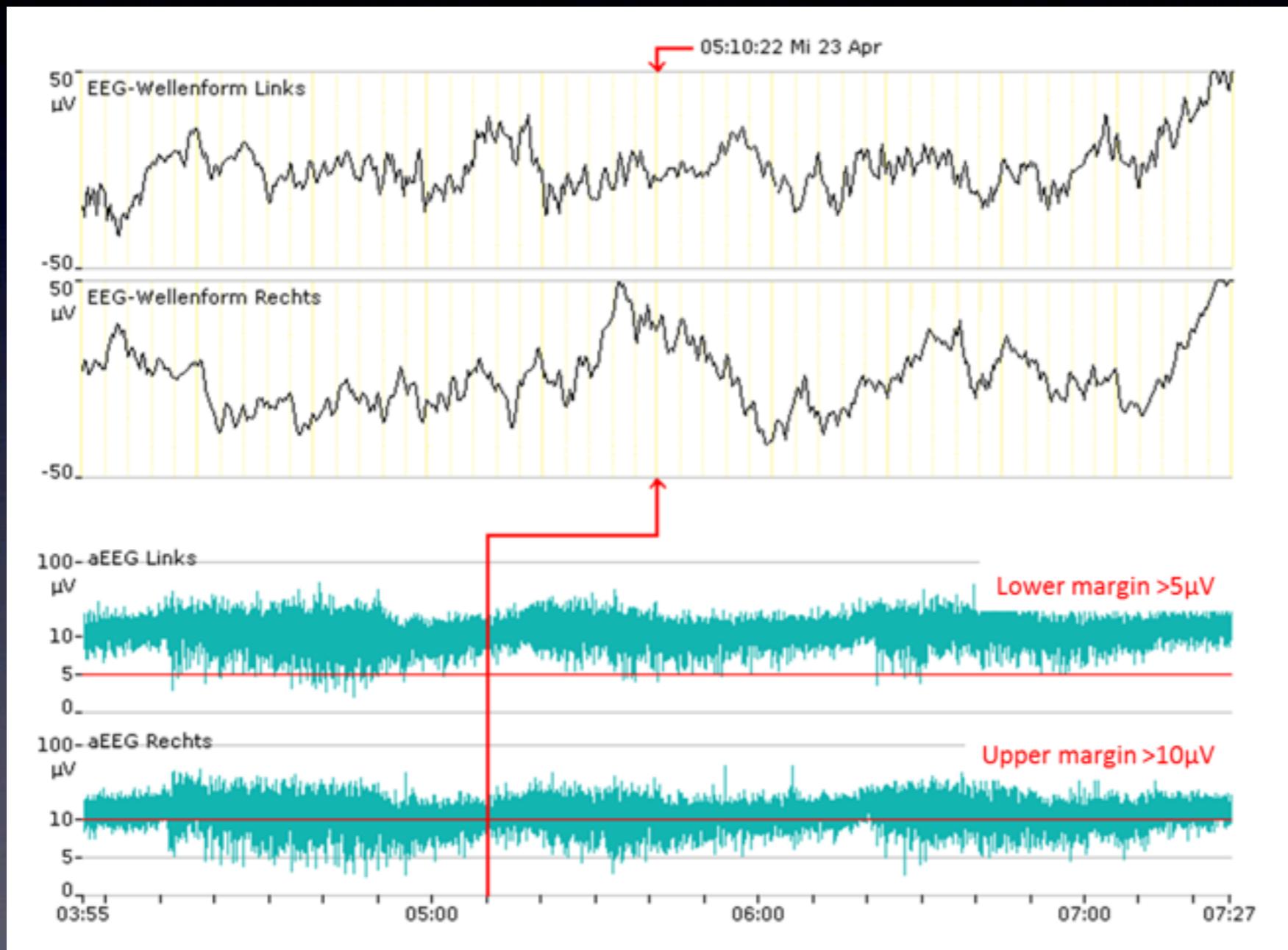
Sleep-Wake-Cycling

Seizure activity

# Background activity (pattern recognition)

continuous normal voltage pattern, C Upper margin >10-25µV Lower margin >(5-)7-10µV	100-aEEG Links µV 
discontinuous pattern, DC Upper margin >10-25µV Lower margin <5µV	100-aEEG Rechts µV 
Burst suppression pattern, BS Lower margin 0-1(-2)µV Bursts >25µV BS- <100 bursts/hour BS+ >100 bursts/hour	
Low voltage, LV Lower margin at or <5µV Upper margin <10µV	100-aEEG Rechts µV 
Inactive, flat trace, FT Upper and lower margin continuously <5µV	100-aEEG LINKS µV 

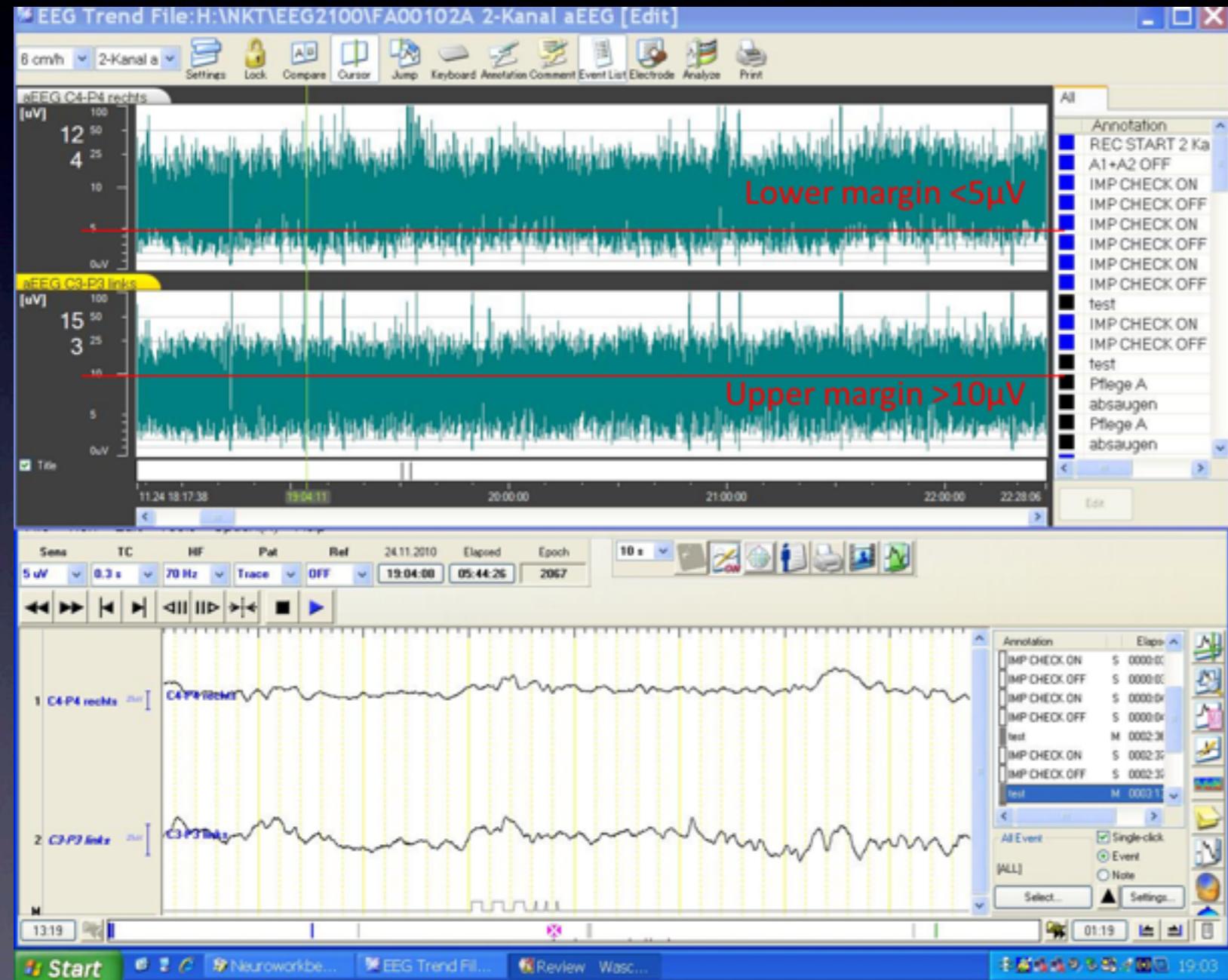
# CNV, Continuous normal voltage, continuous pattern



**Maximum amplitude**  
**10-25(-50) μV**

**Minimum amplitude**  
**> 5 (7)-10 μV**

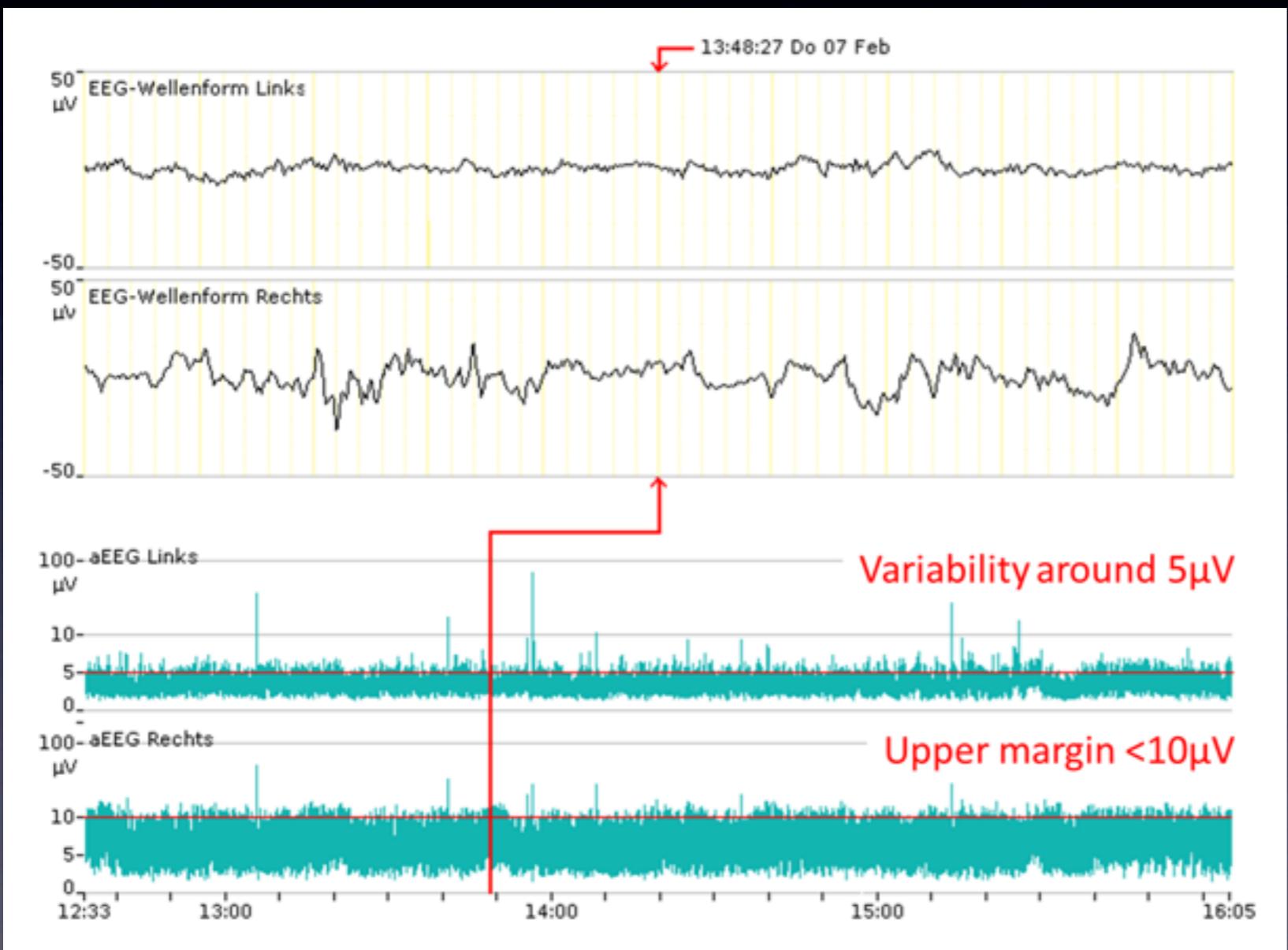
# DC, Discontinuous voltage, discontinuous pattern



**Maximum amplitude**  
**10-25(-50)  $\mu$ V**

**Minimum amplitude**  
**< 5  $\mu$ V**

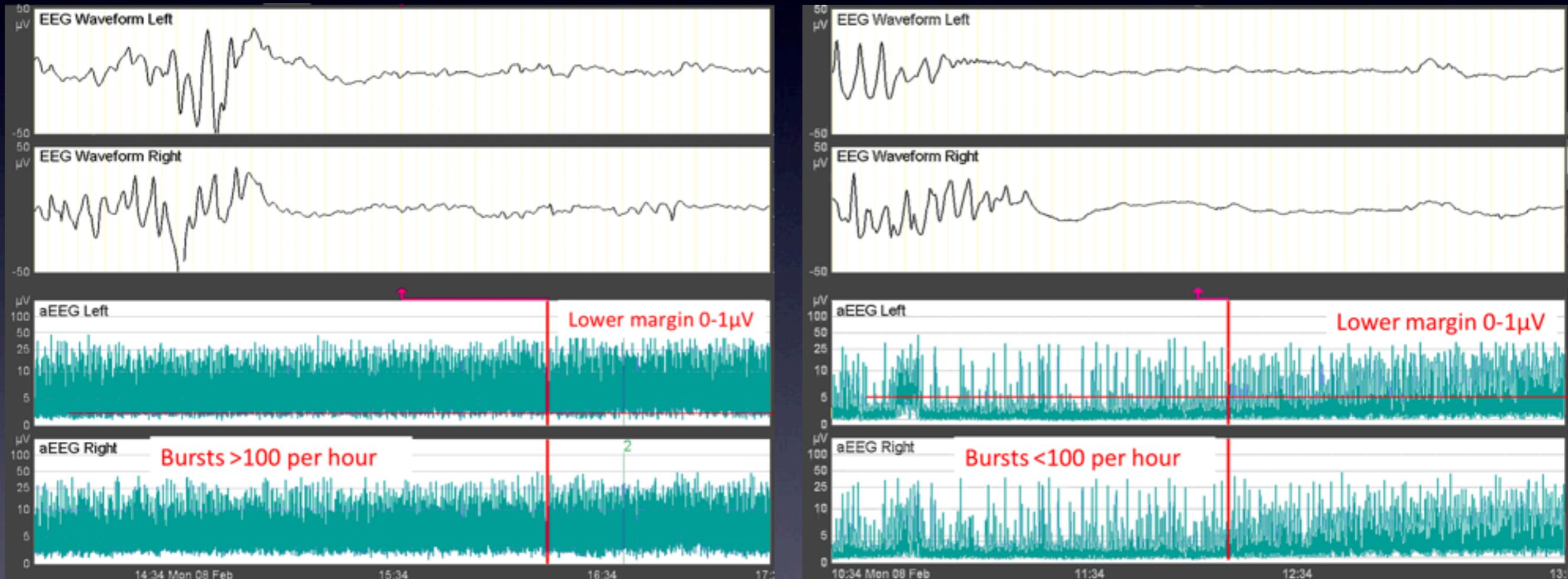
# LV, Low voltage



**Maximum amplitude  
< 10  $\mu\text{V}$**

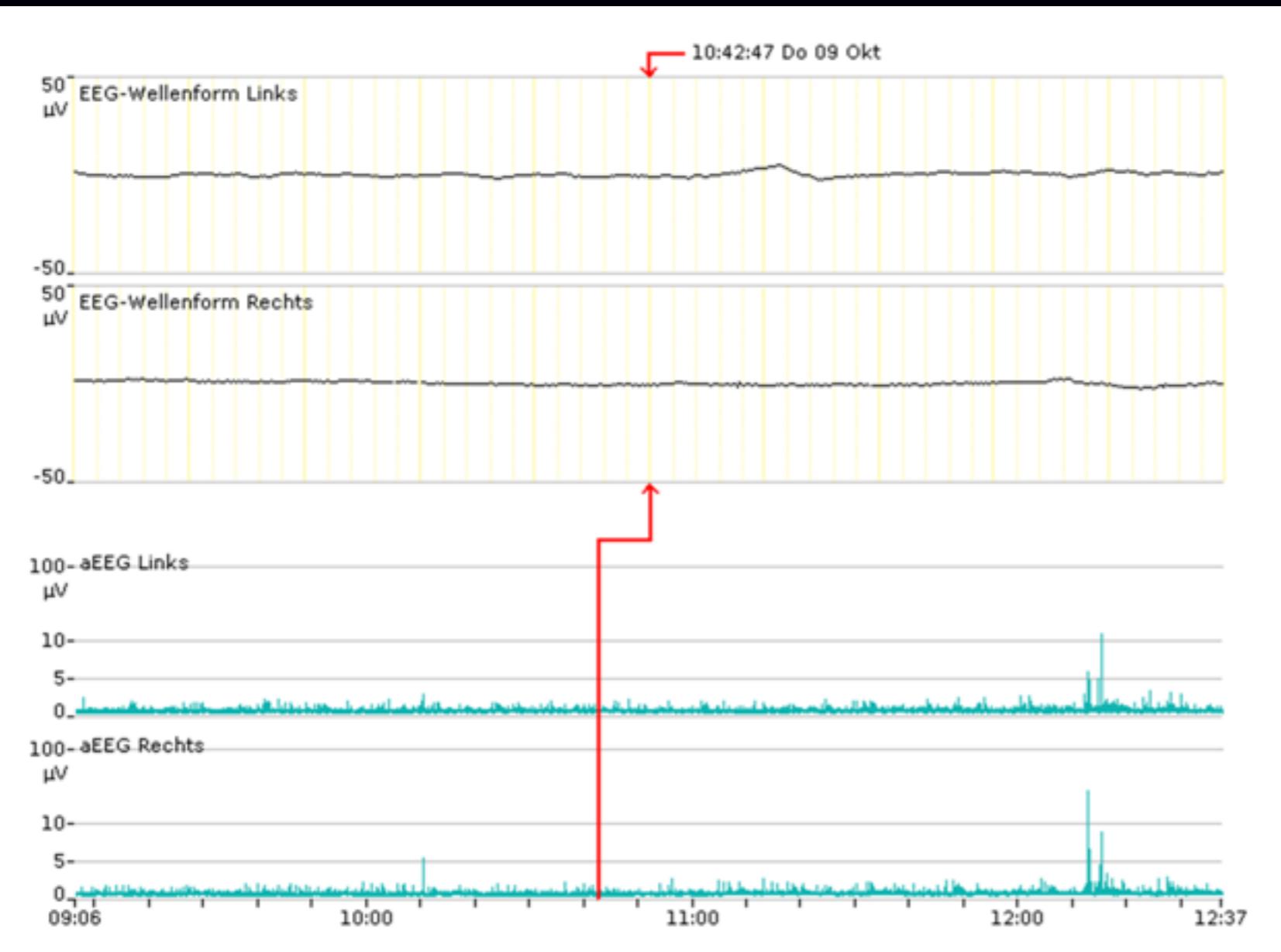
**Variability around 5  $\mu\text{V}$**

# BS +/-, burst suppression pattern



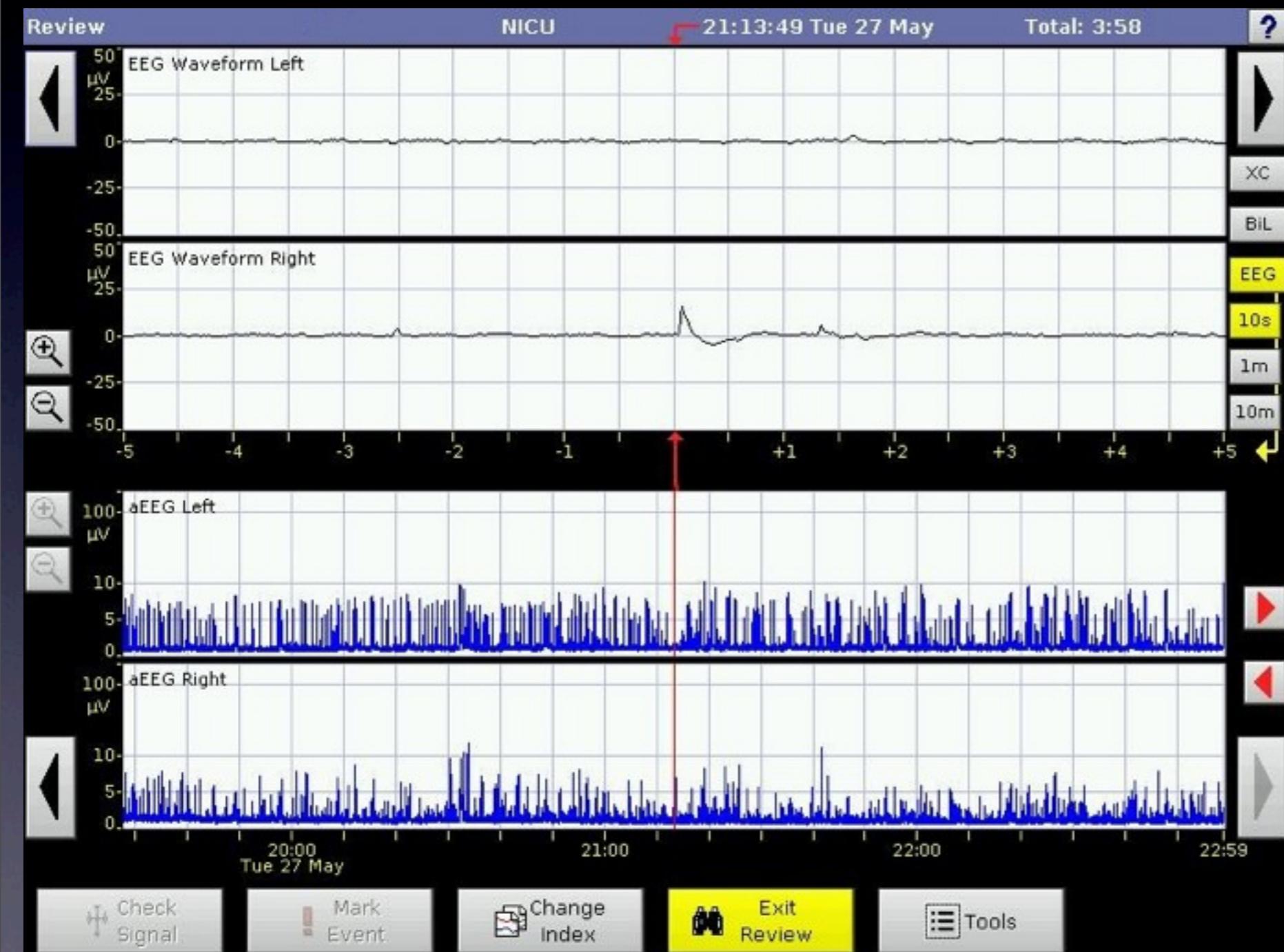
BS+ >100 Bursts / h or BS- <100 Bursts / h  
Inter Burst Intervall (IBI)

# FT, flat trace, inactive pattern



Pattern always  $< 5 \mu\text{V}$  (isoelectric)

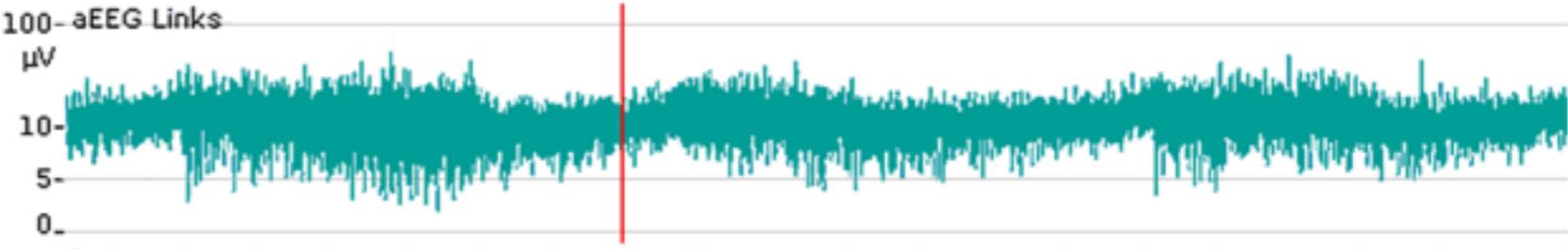
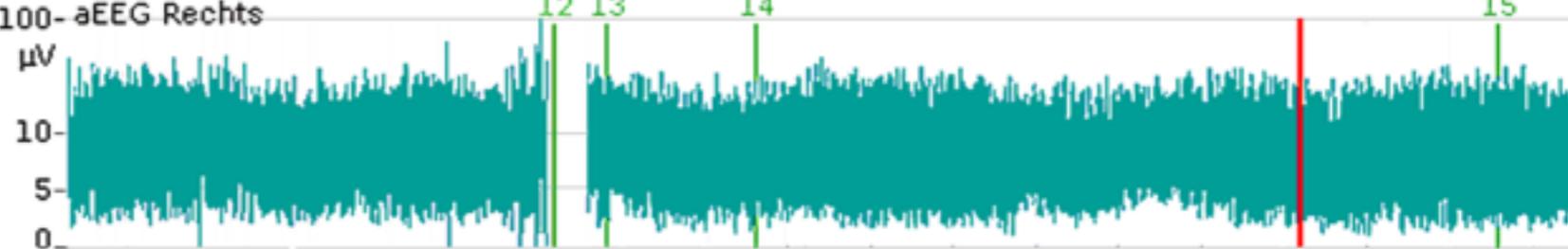
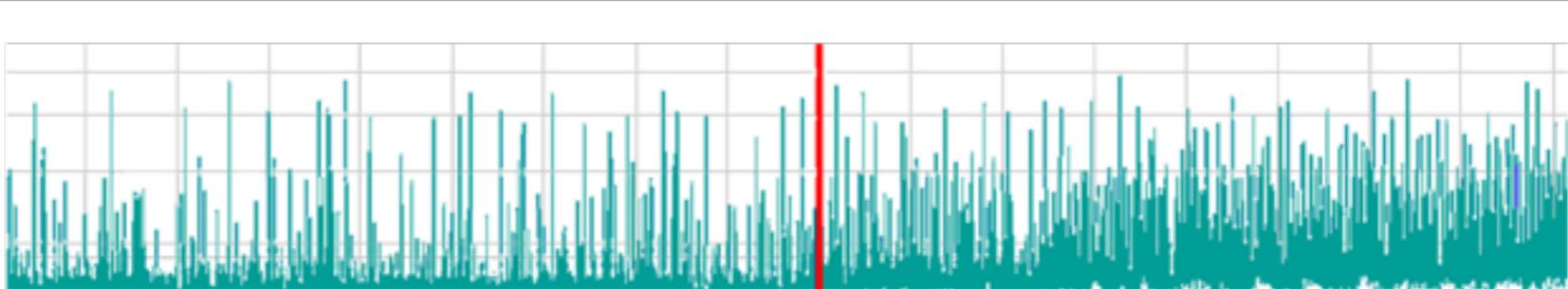
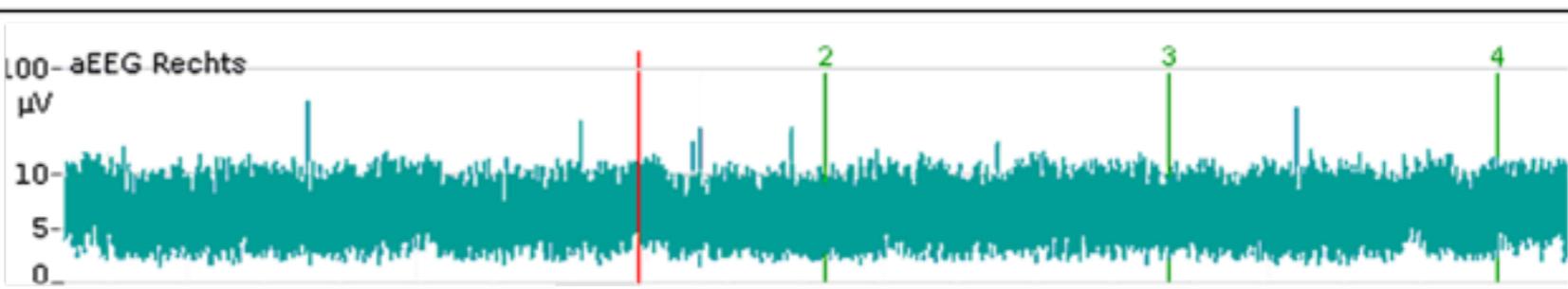
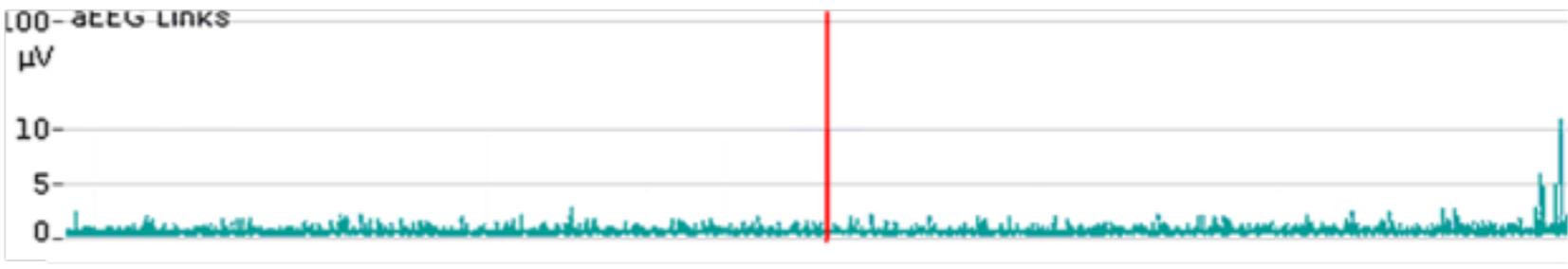
# FT, flat trace, inactive pattern



Beware  
of artefacts!

This is still FT

# Background activity (pattern recognition)

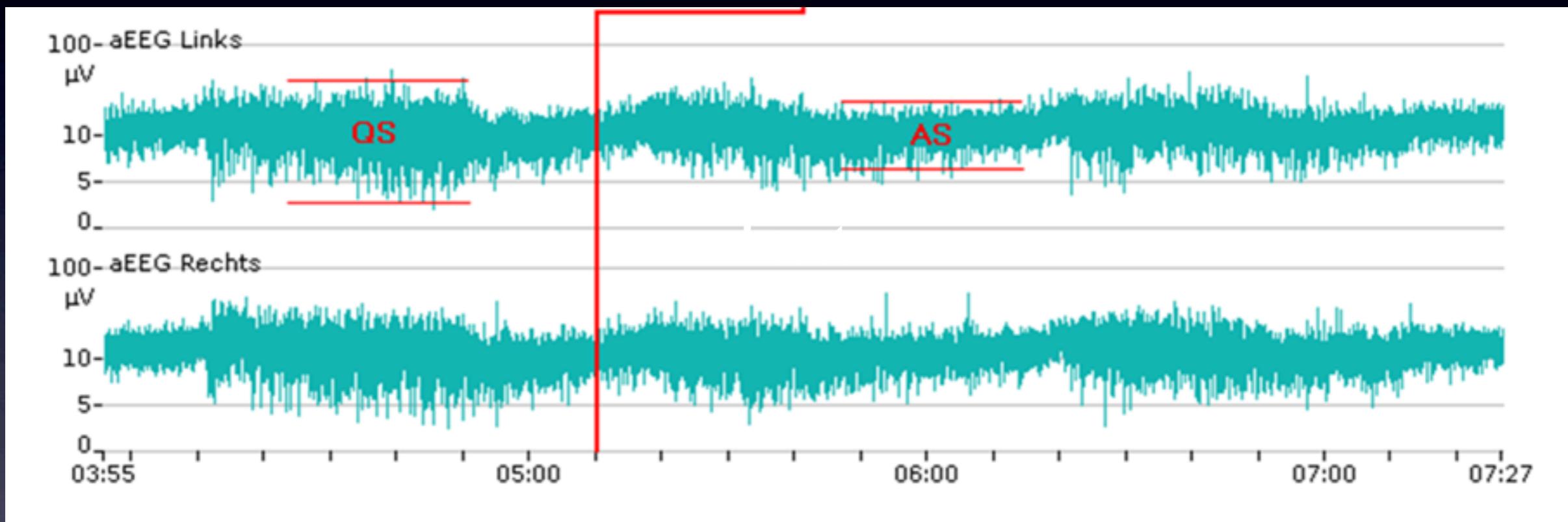
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# Assessment of an aEEG

Background activity

# SWC

# Sleep-Wake-Cycling



Continuous activity with repeating sinusoidal periods pattern  
mainly in the minimal amplitude  
(like tracé alternant EEG, „quiet sleep“ QS ) and back.  
Periods normally at least one hour, part of quite sleep usually 20-30 min.

# SWC Sleep-Wake-Cycling

## **No SWC**

no cyclic variation of background activity

## ***Immature/Incomplete SWC***

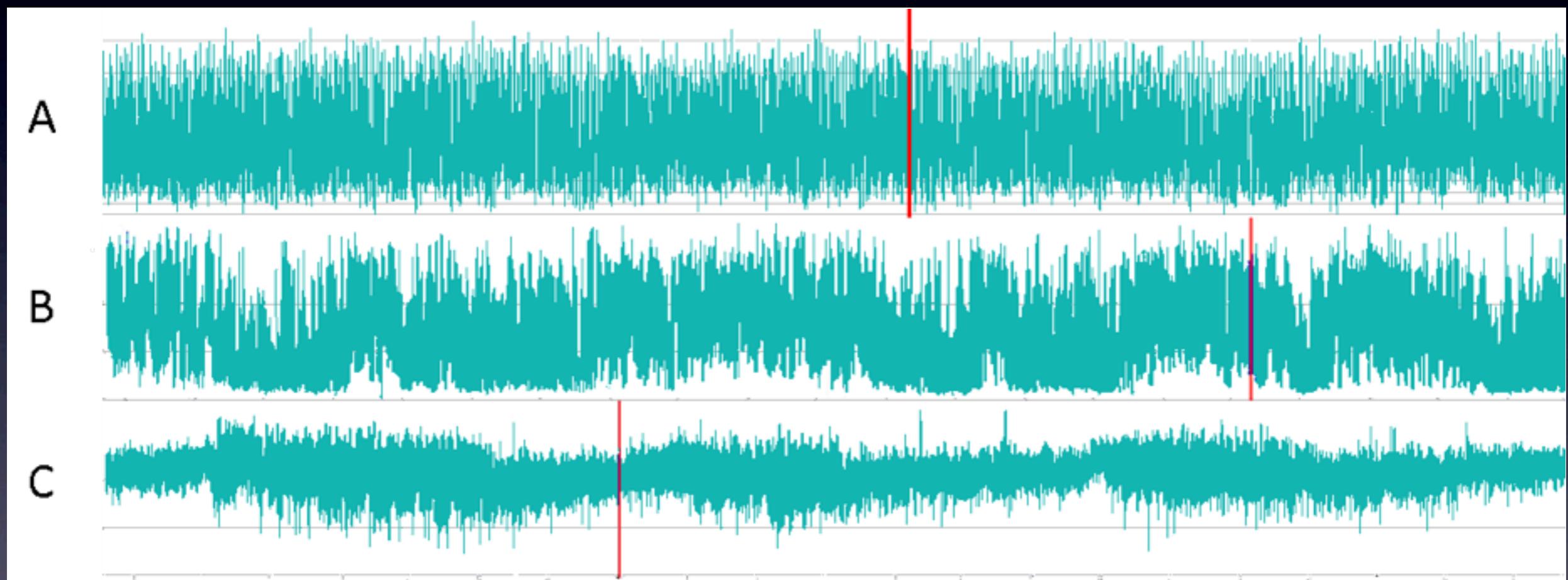
in part, but not fully developed cyclic variation of minimal amplitude  
(in respect of the gestational age)

## ***Developed/normal SWC***

clearly identifiable sinusoid variations between discontinuous and continuous background activity with cycles longer than 20 minutes.

# SWC

# Sleep-Wake-Cycling



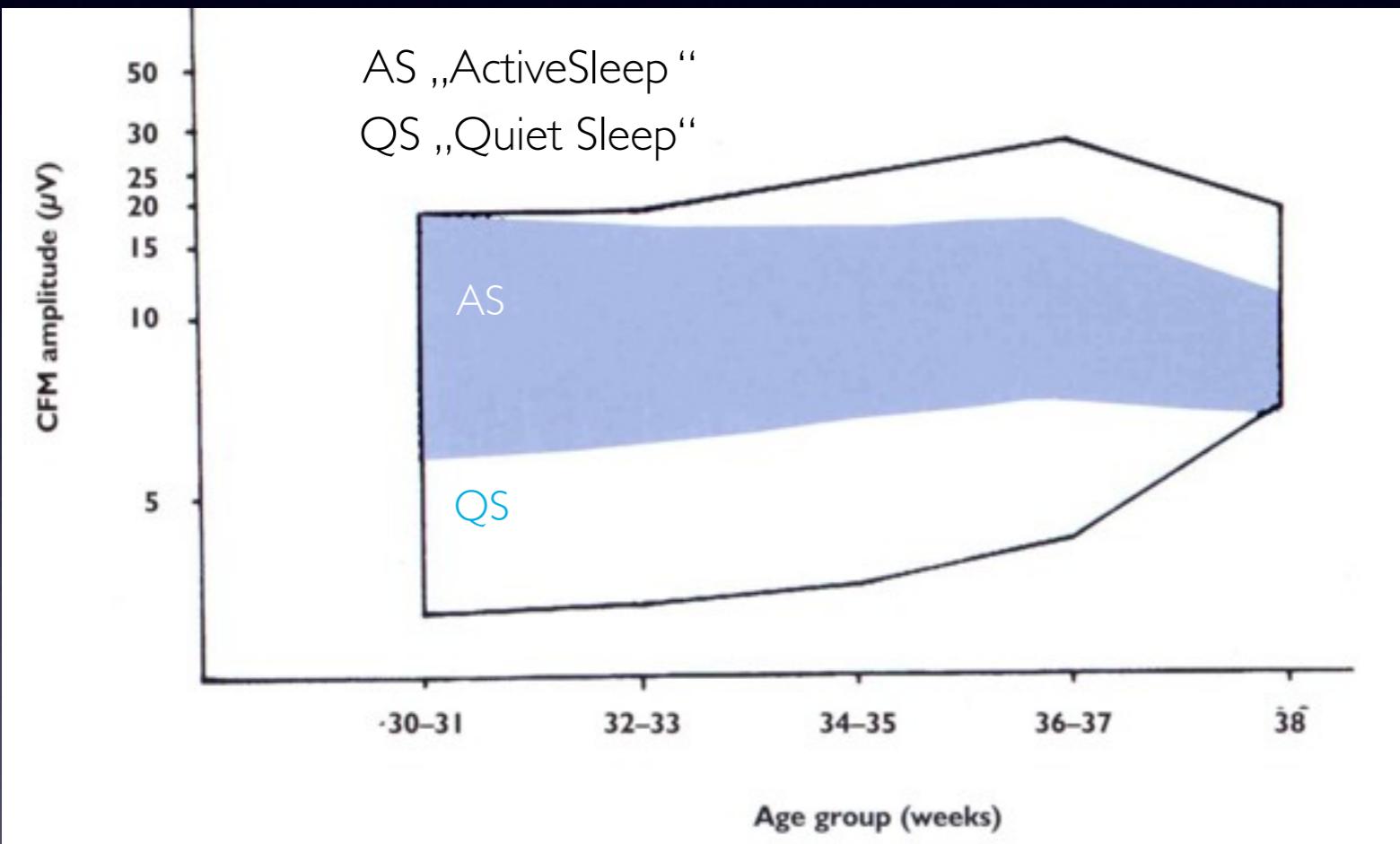
A: No SWC

B: immature or incomplete SWC (suboptimal variant)

C: normal SWC (Lasts > 20 Min. / cycle)

# SWC

## Sleep-Wake-Cycling



Dependant on gestational age

In quiet sleep (QS) linear correlation  
between height of lower amplitude  
and maturity

Immature SWC from 25-26 weeks

from 29-30 weeks fully developed

[from Thornberg und Thiringer 1990.  
Aus: Hellstrom-Westas, de Vries,  
Rosen. Atlas of aEEG in the Newborn]

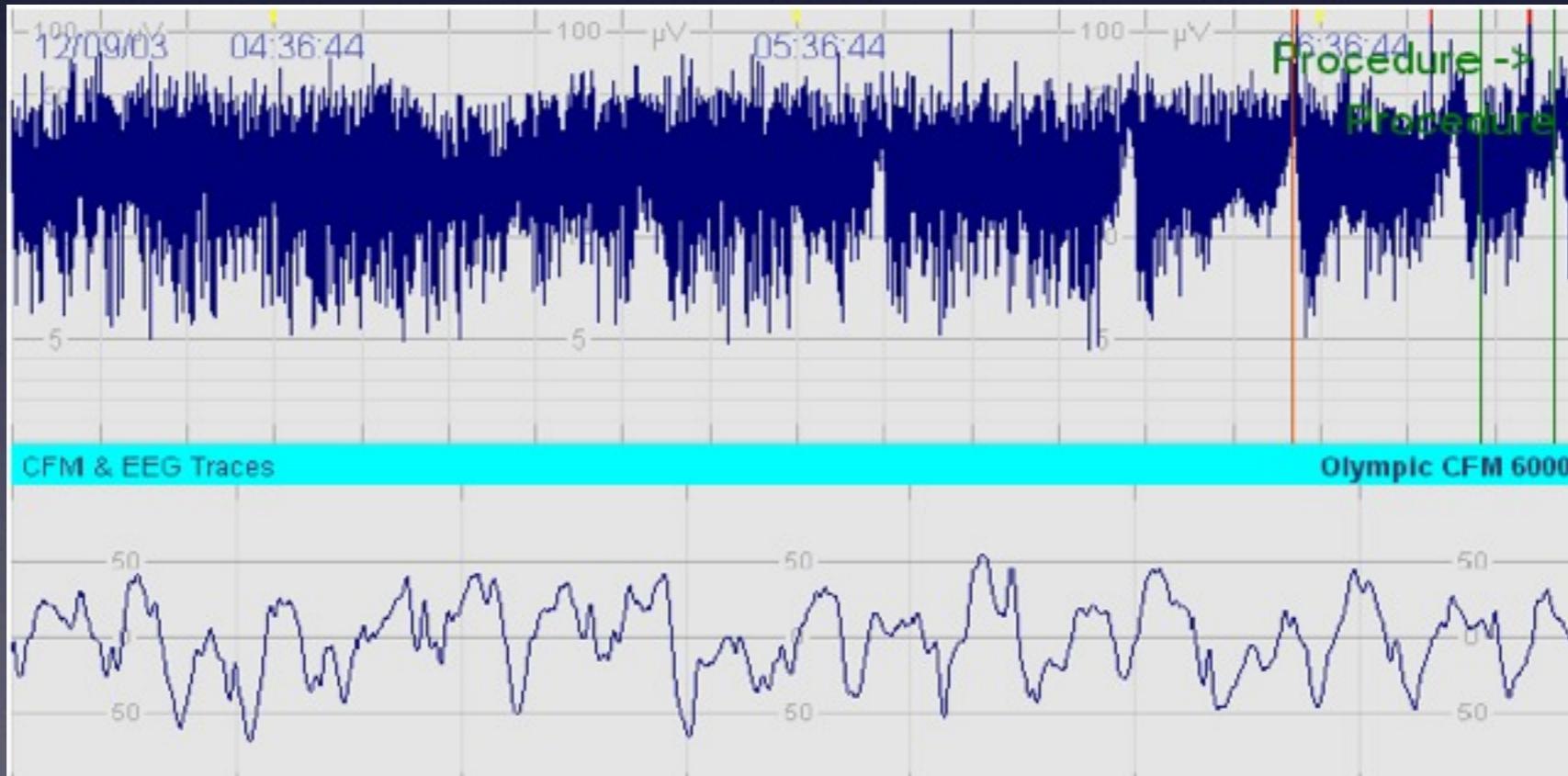
# Assessment of an aEEG

Background activity

Sleep-Wake-Cycling

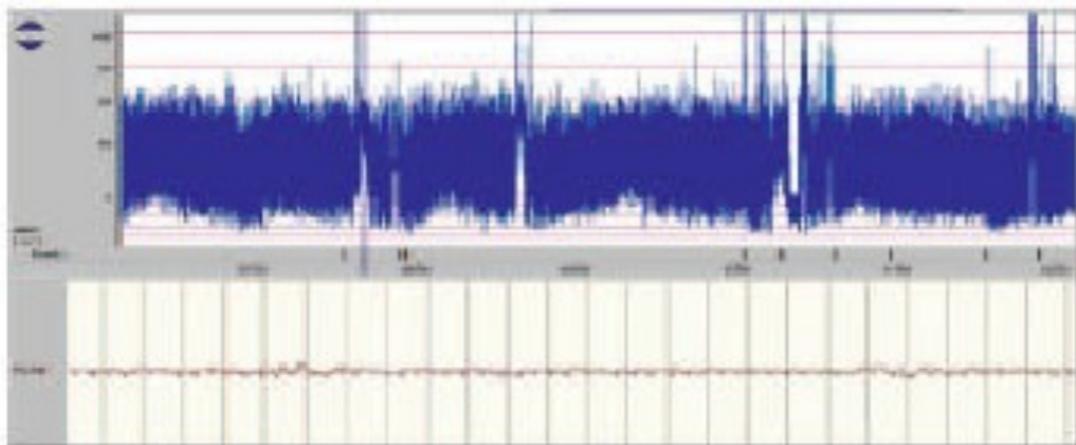
# Seizure activity

- Sudden change of background activity with higher amplitude.
- Often strong increase of upper and lower band, sometimes also only the lower band.
- Often followed by transient postictal depression of the amplitude. Must be longer than 10 seconds.

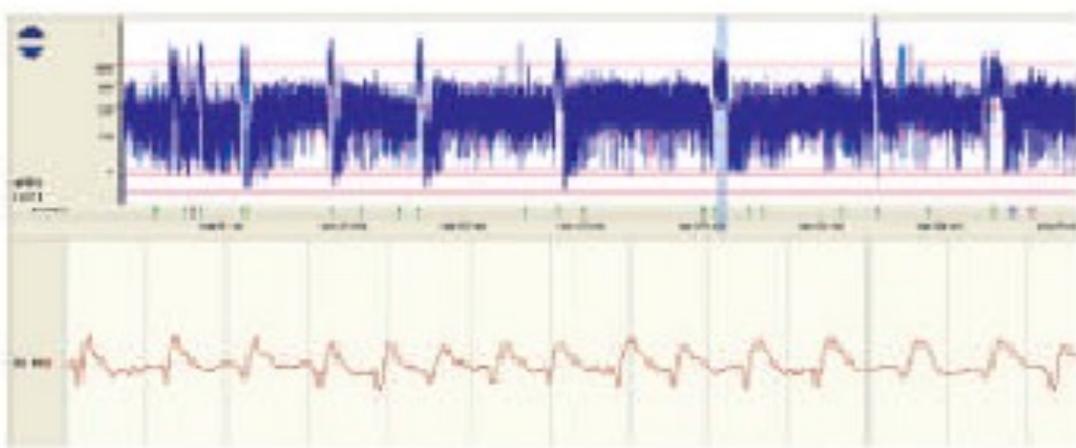


# Seizure activity

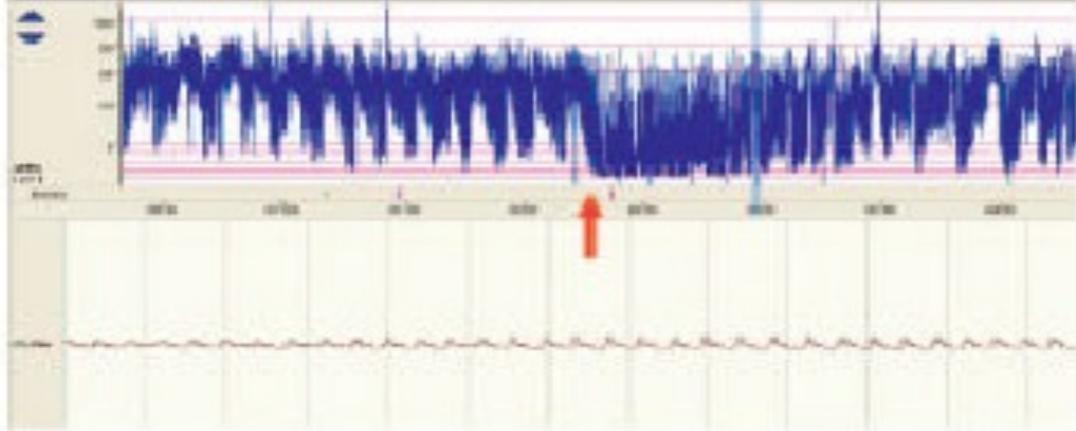
a)



b)



c)

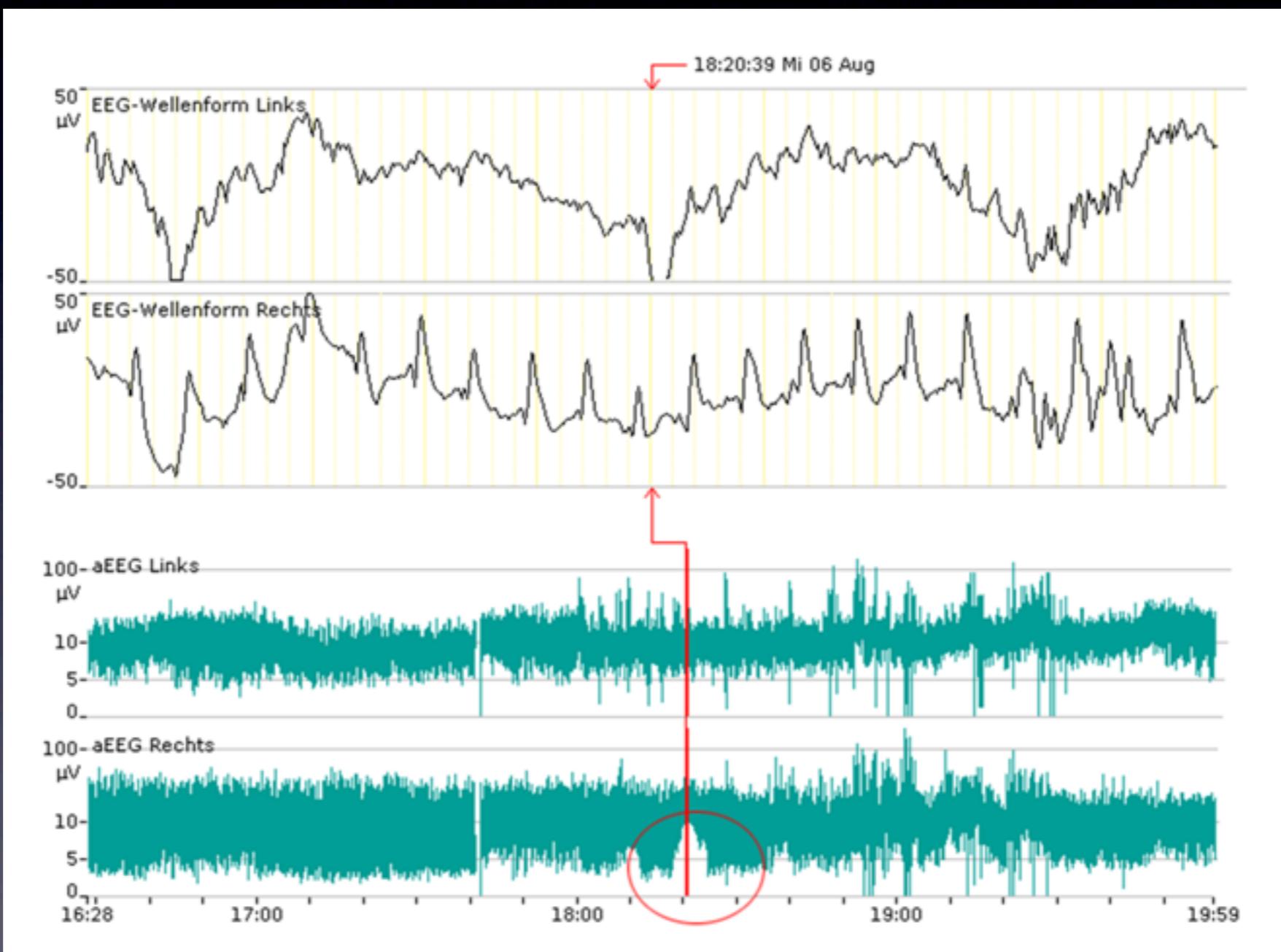


a.) single seizures (SS)

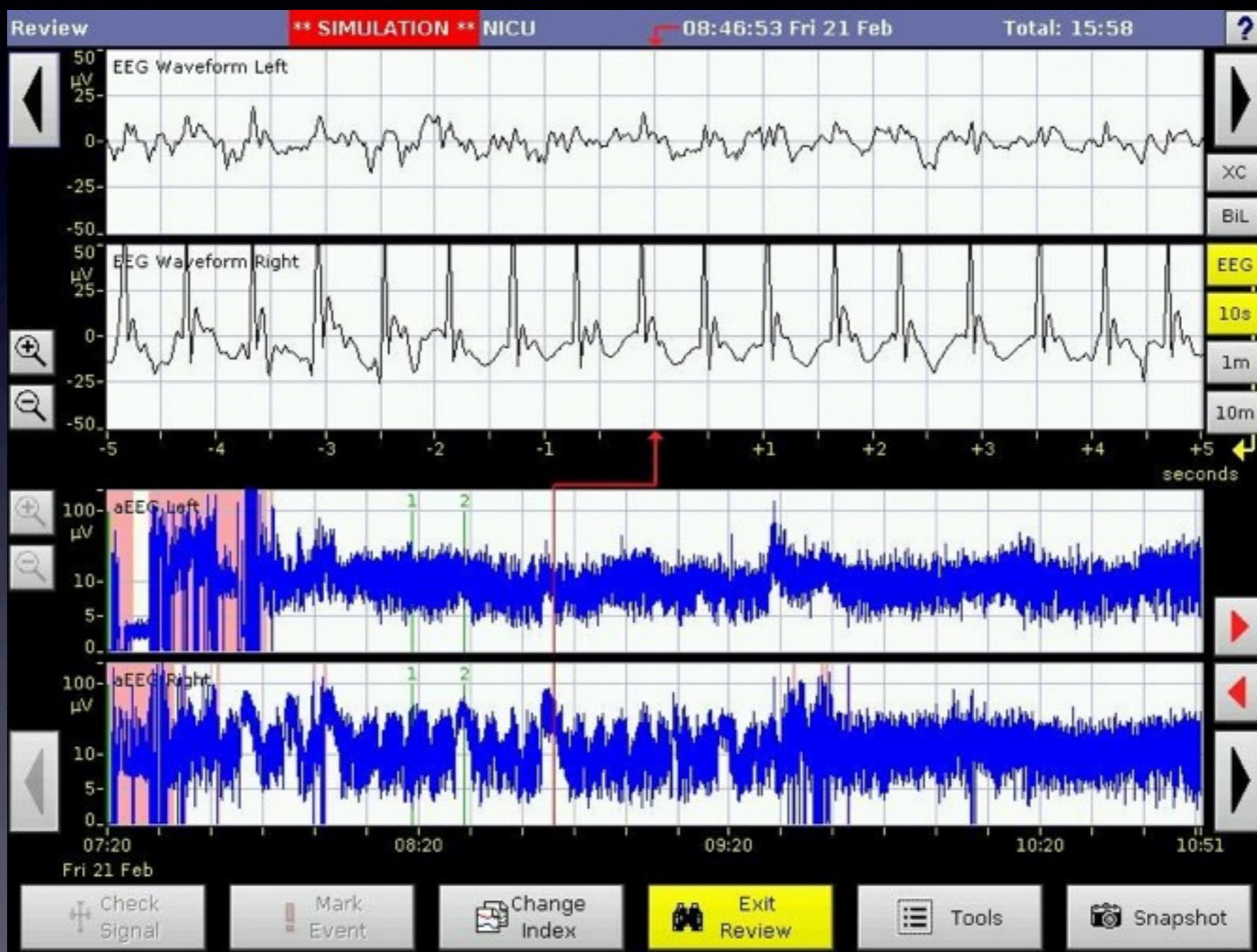
b.) repetitive seizures (RS) within 30 minutes

c.) Status epilepticus (SE, 'sawtooth pattern')  
seizure activity > 30 minutes

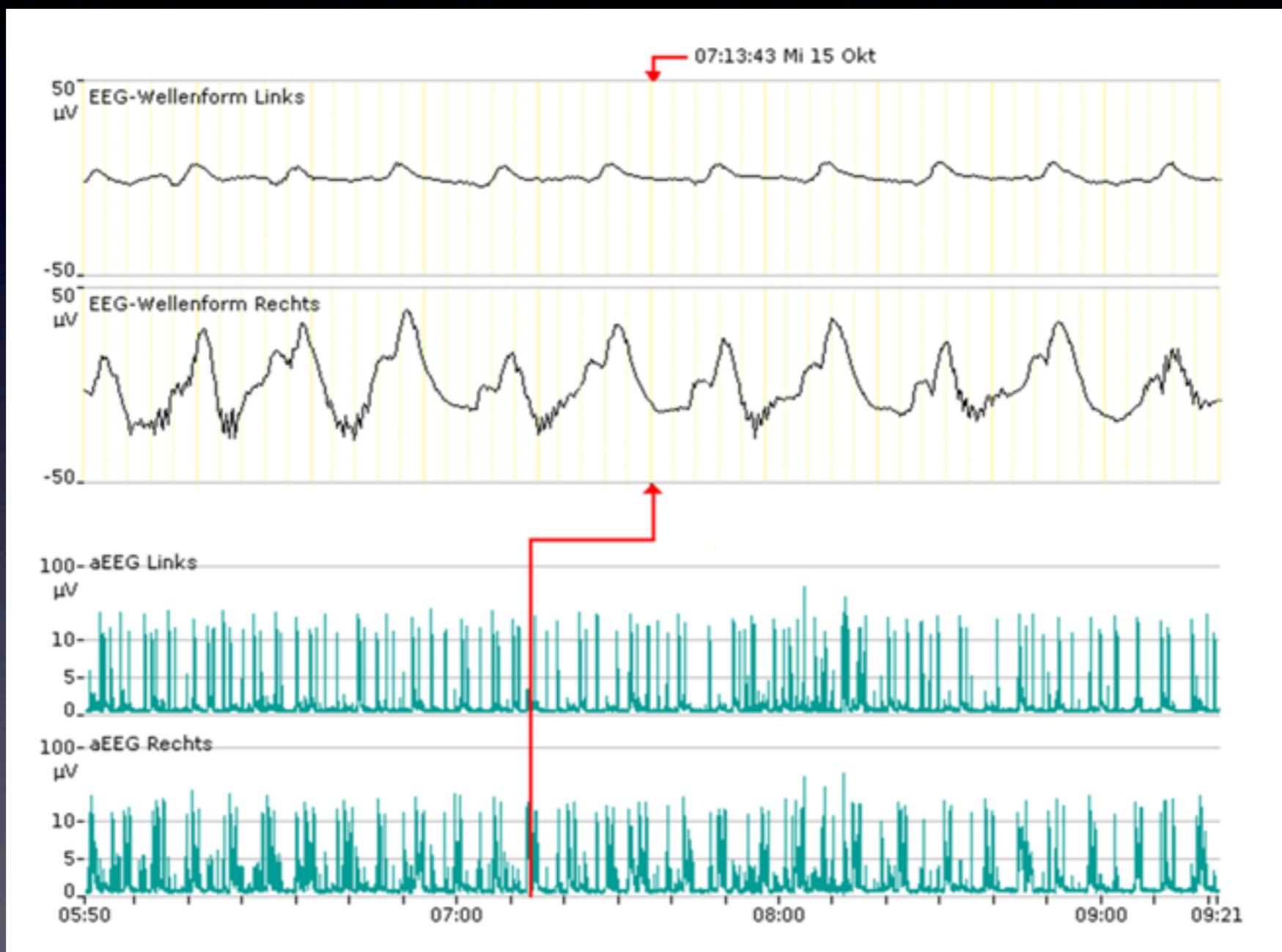
# Single Seizure



# Repeated Seizure



# Status epilepticus



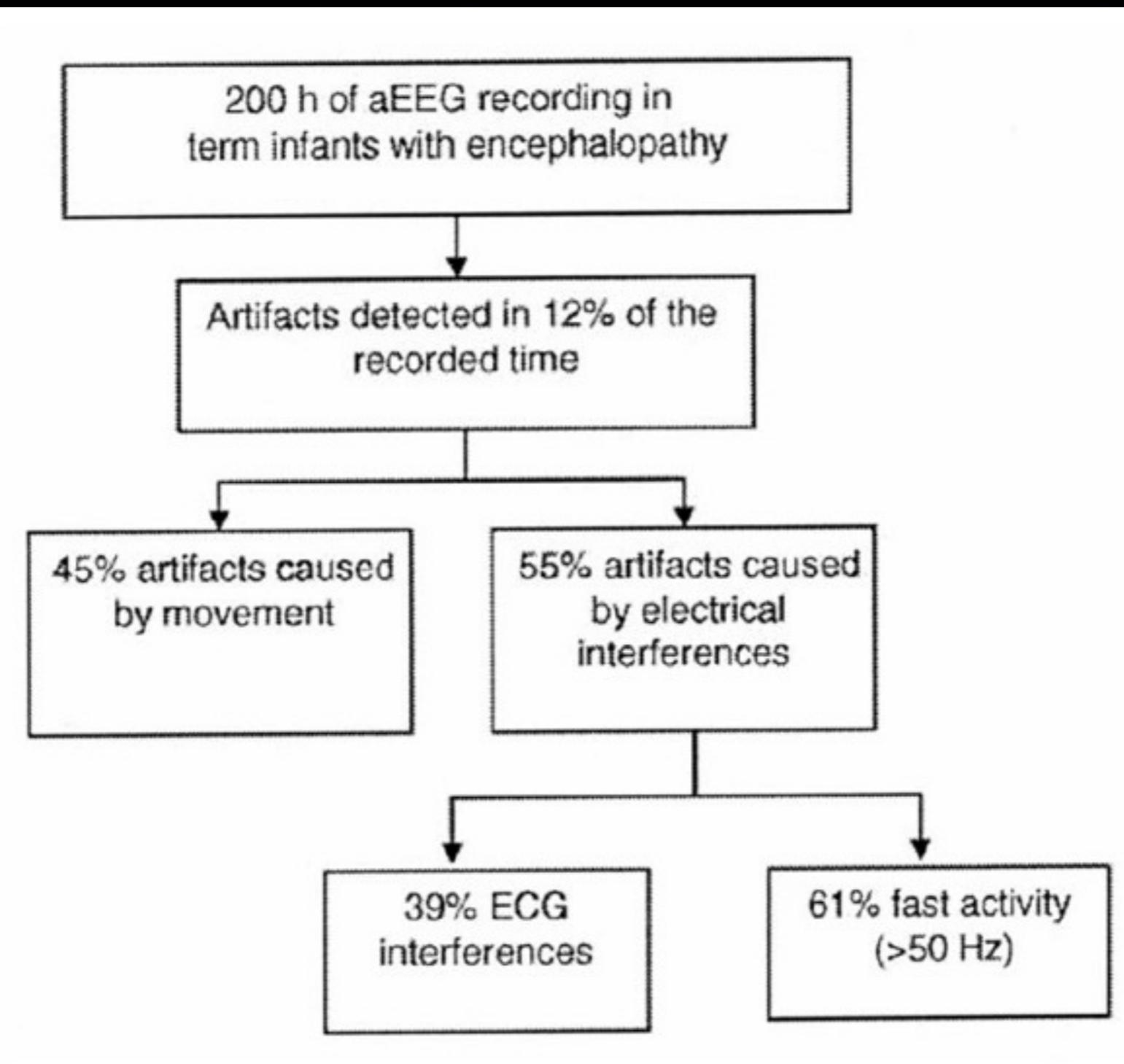
# Assessment of an aEEG

Background activity

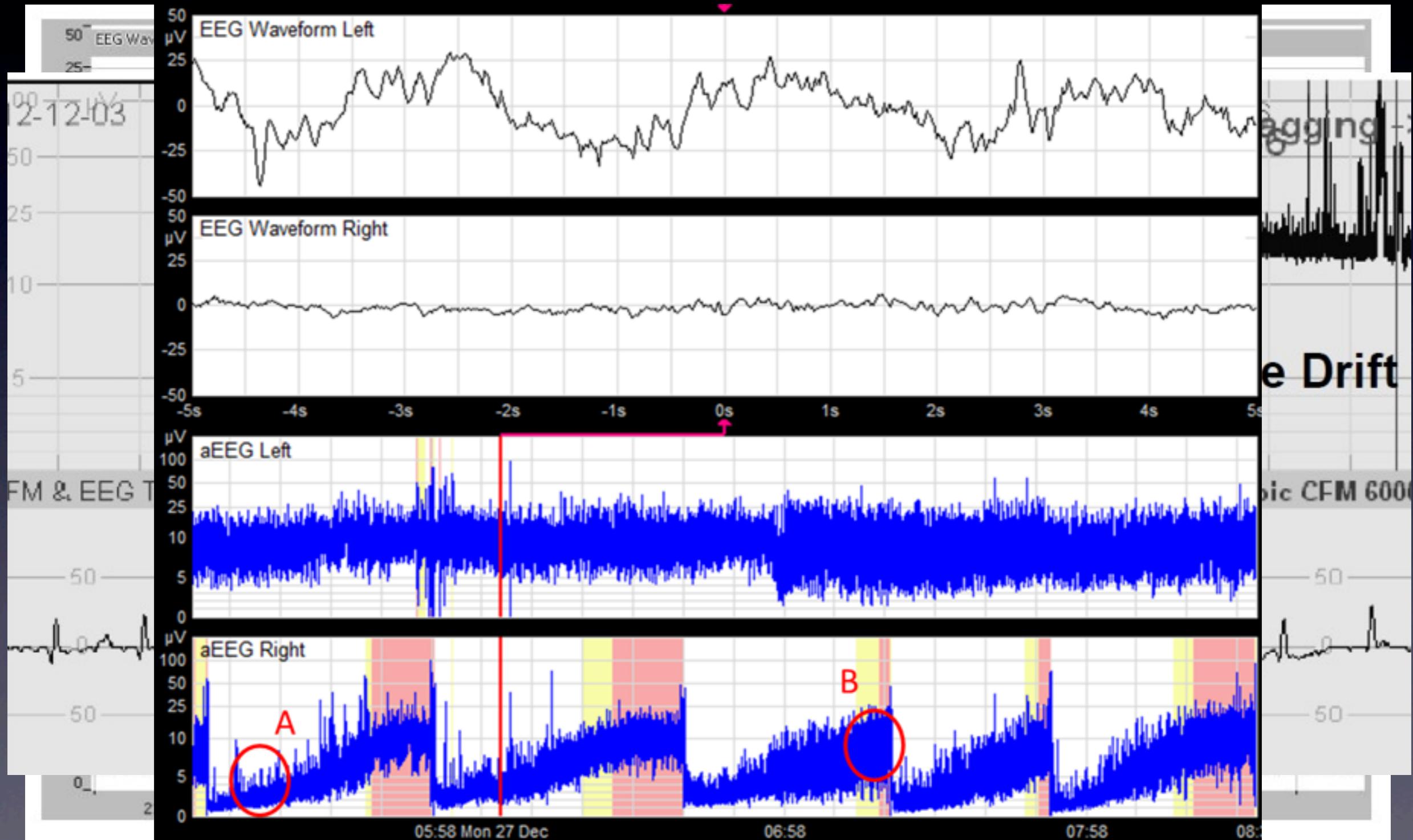
Sleep-Wake-Cycling

Seizure activity

# Beware of artefacts



# Examples for artefacts



# Reasons for artefacts

Movement

Rhythmic padding

Muscle activity (EMG)

ECG

Respiratory artifact (e.g. HFO)

Edema and Hematoma

Change in impedance / lost electrodes

**-> train early to look at raw eeg to be effective in detecting artifacts**

# Use of aEEG



Perinatal asphyxia / HIE

Monitoring for seizures or clarifying apneas

Monitoring of antiepileptic drugs / sedation / relaxation

Course of Encephalopathy, e.g. metabolic diseases, Meningoencephalitis etc.

Monitoring of VLBW preterms (brain maturation, outcome prediction)

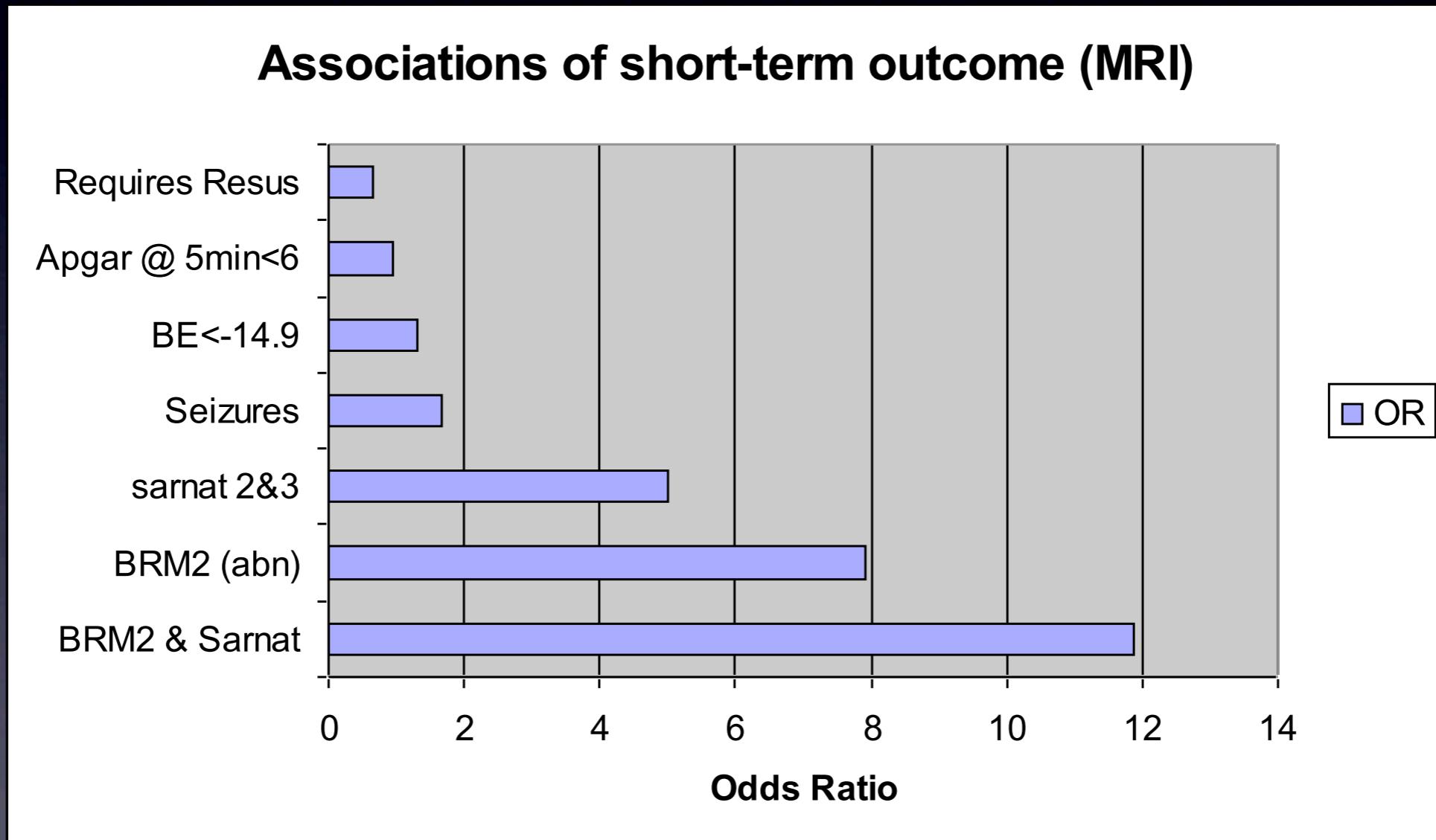
Monitoring of PHVD

postoperative, especially after cardiac surgery (together with NIRS)

Sleep-Wake-Cycling (somnology, minimal handling)

# Examples for use of aEEG

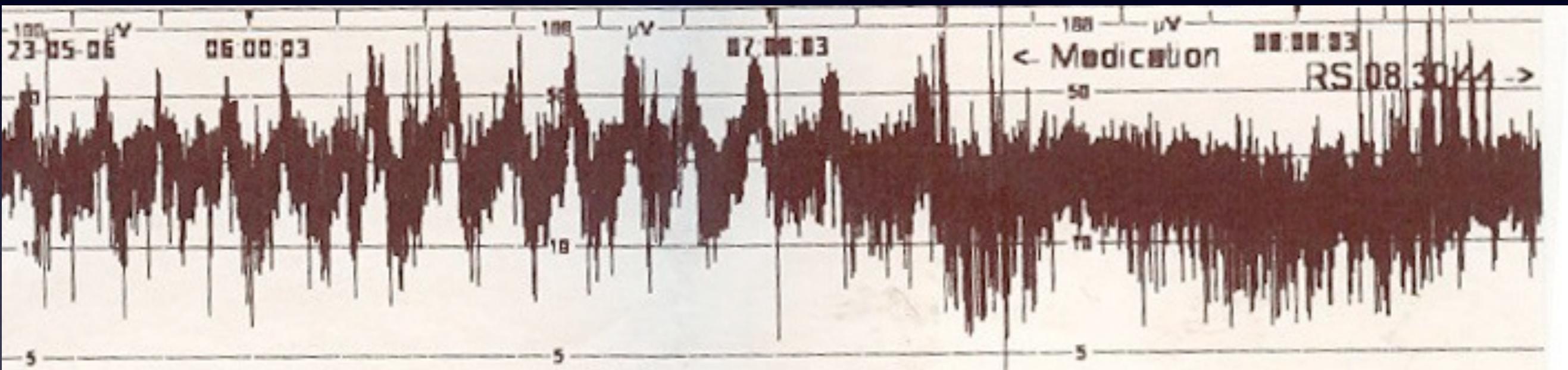
## Prediction after Asphyxia



Lavery et al, 2006, abstract-PSANZ

# Examples for use of aEEG

## Detection of seizures and monitoring effect of medication

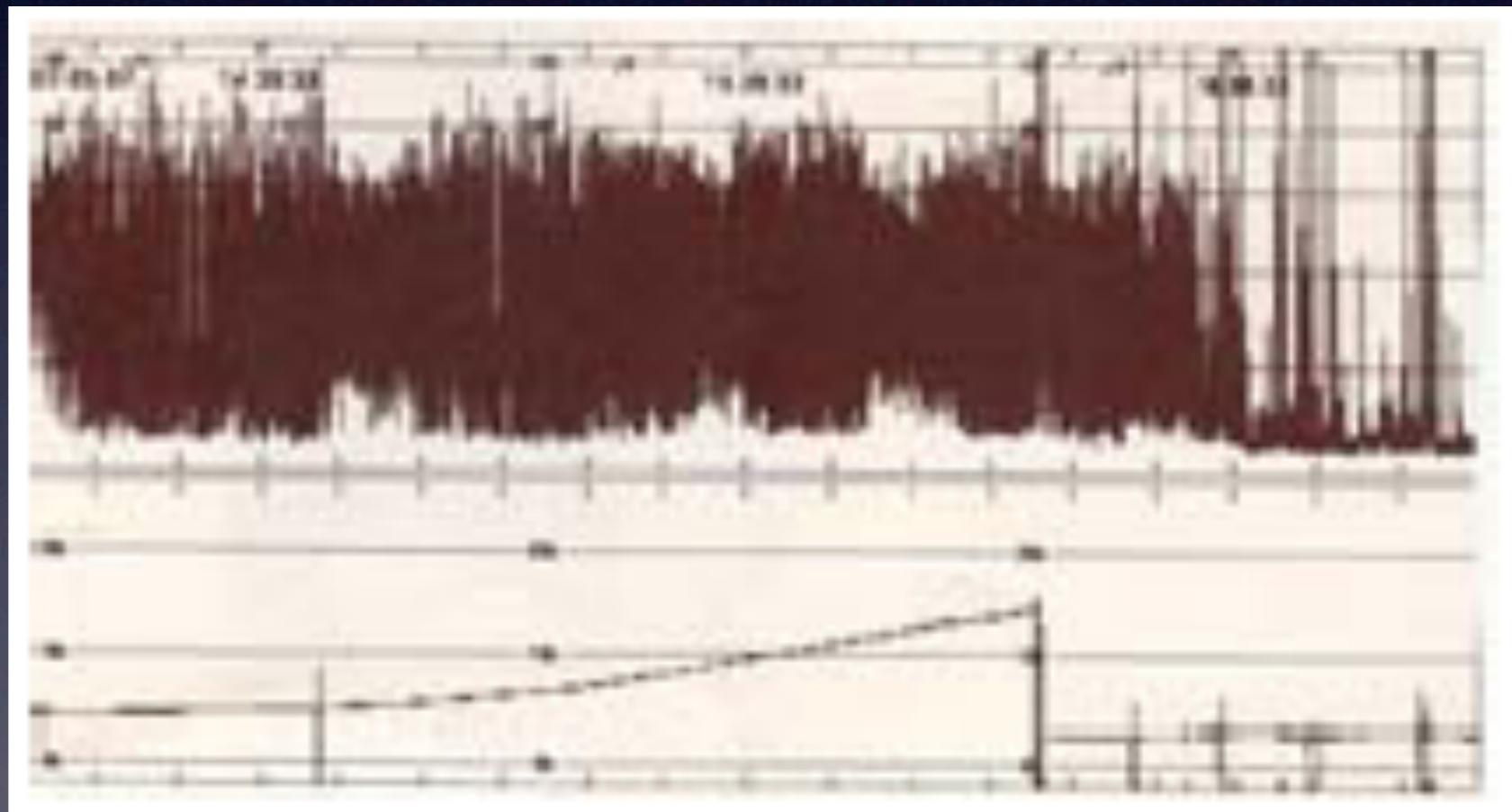


# Examples for use of aEEG

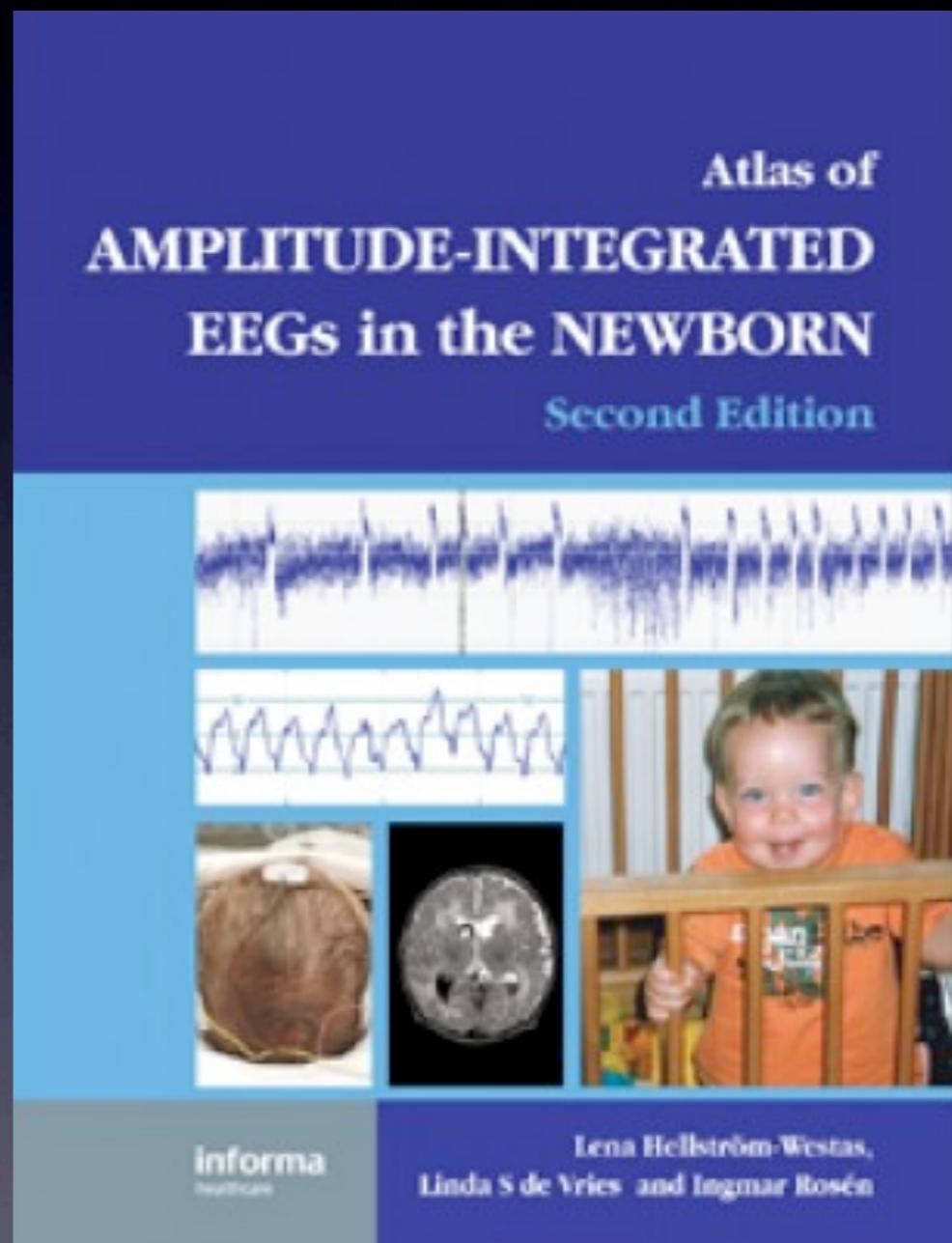
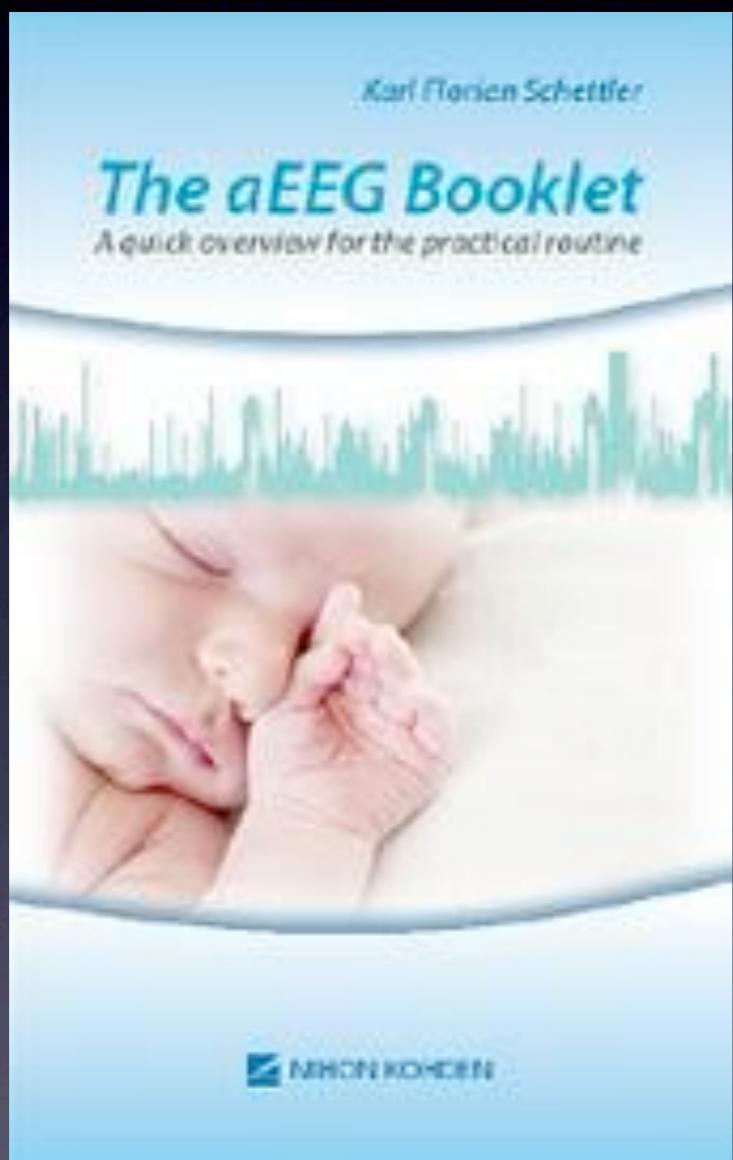
Monitoring of neurological high risk patients

e.g. PHVD posthemorrhagic ventricular dilation

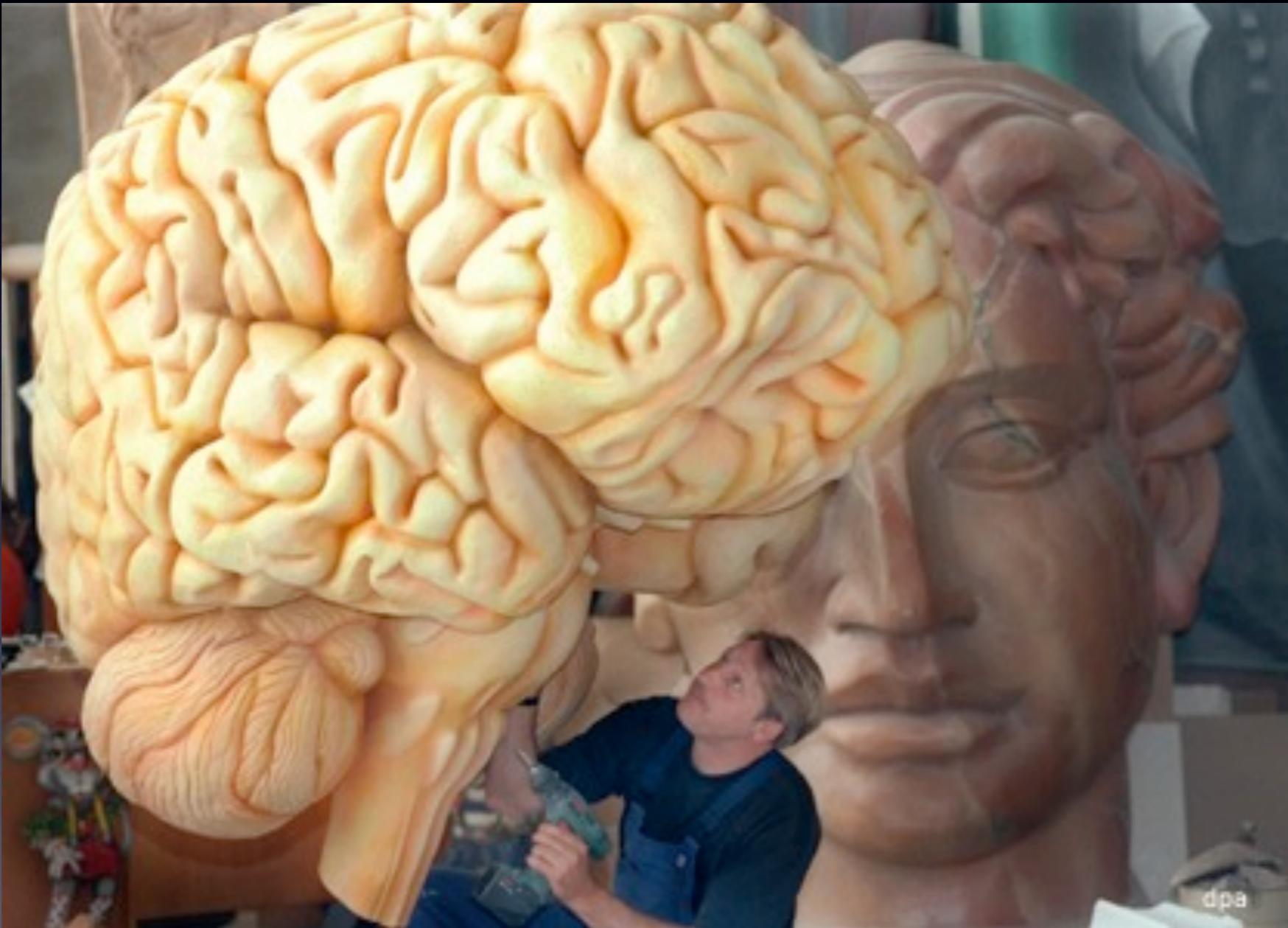
Real-time detection of pressure decompensation



# Get a good overview...



# Features to be aware of

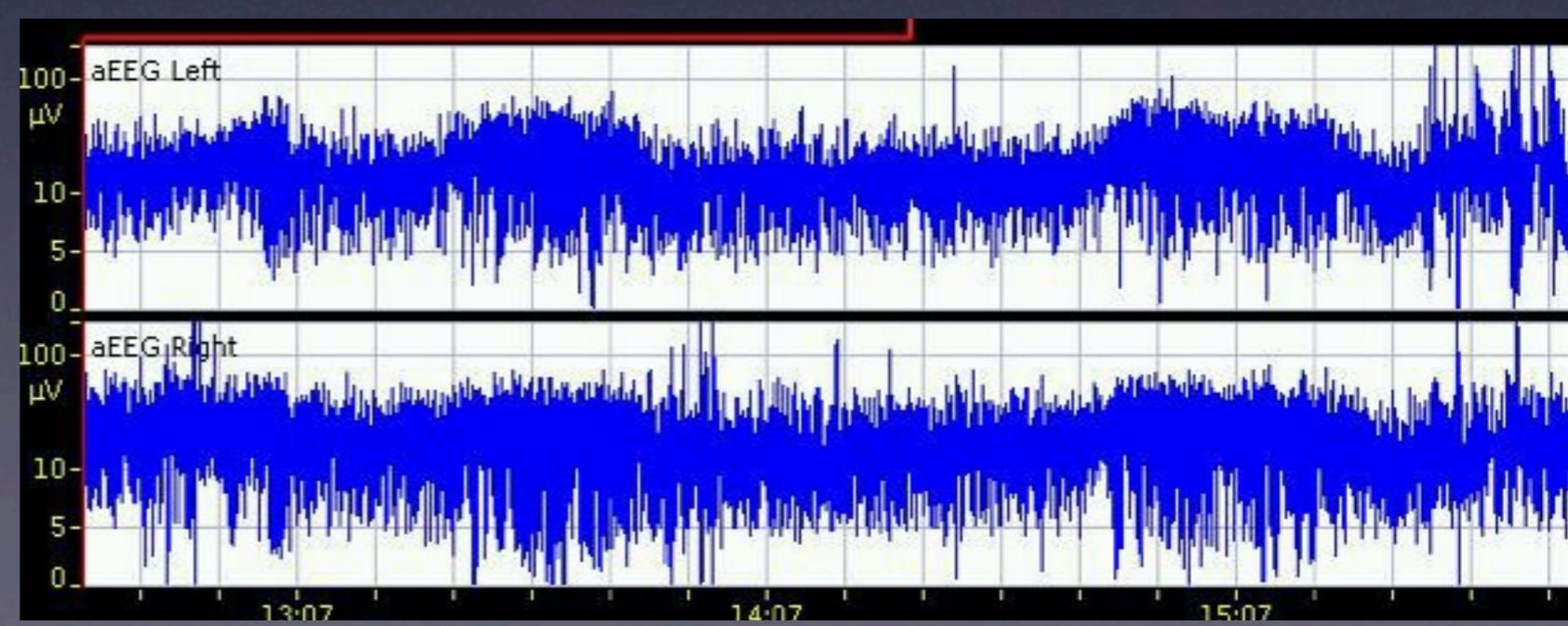
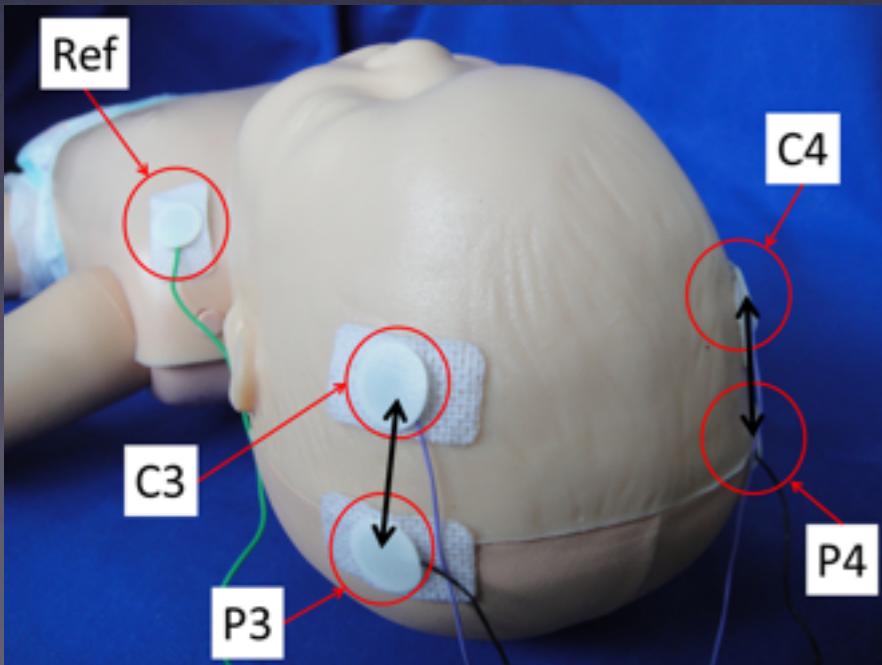
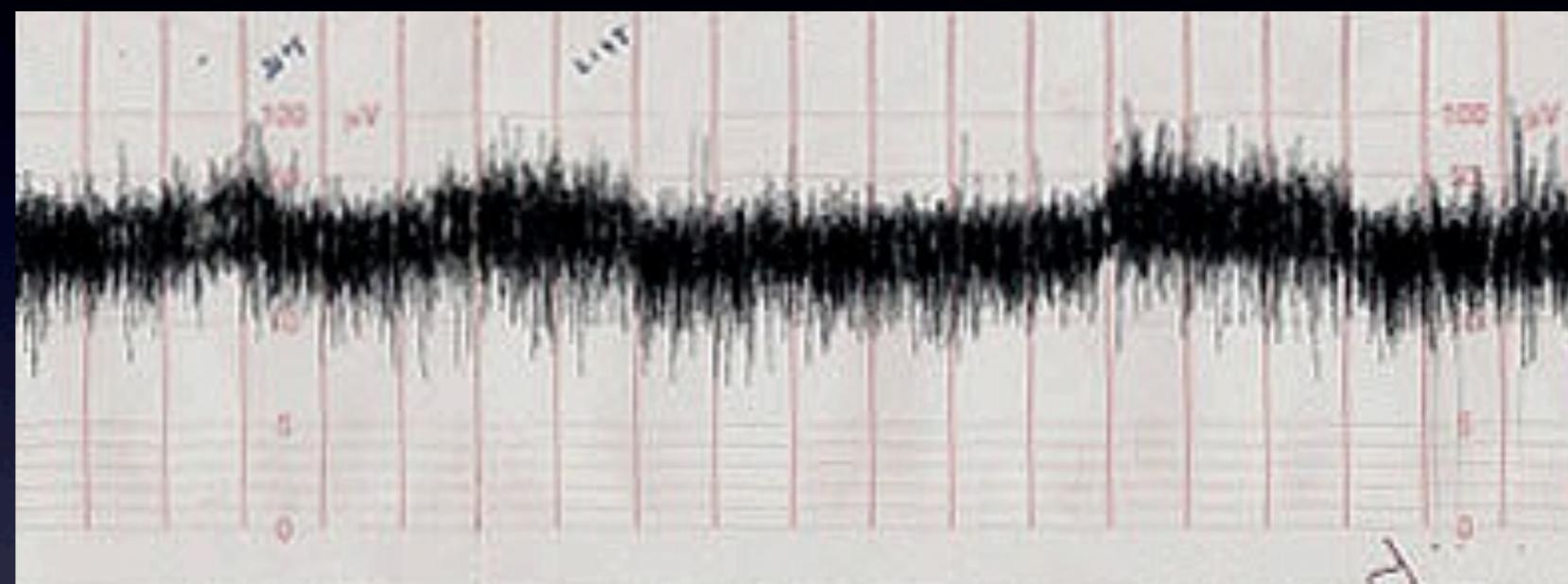
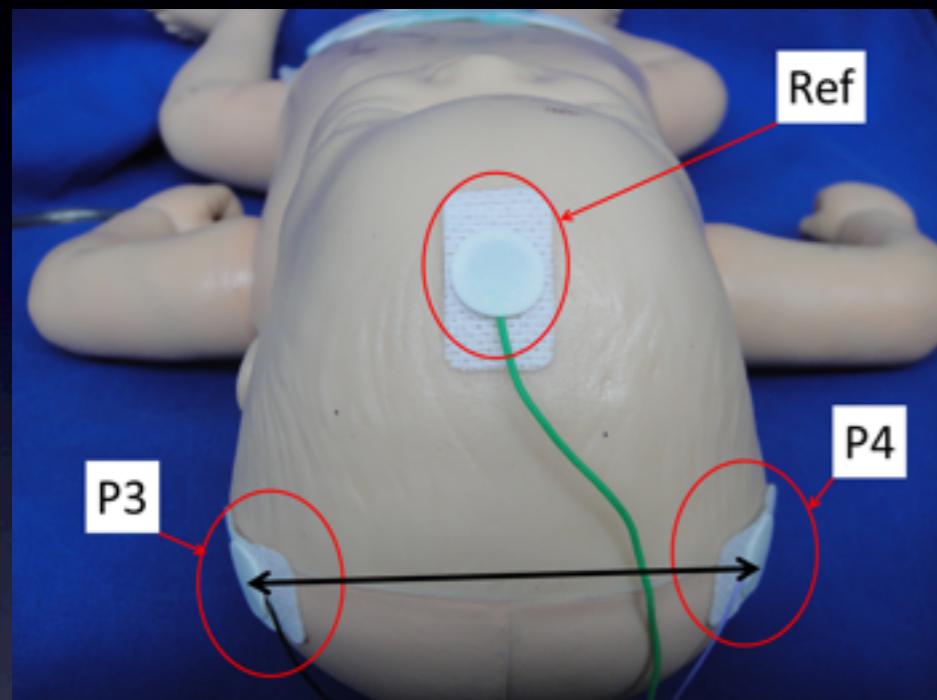


# Kantoor thermometer

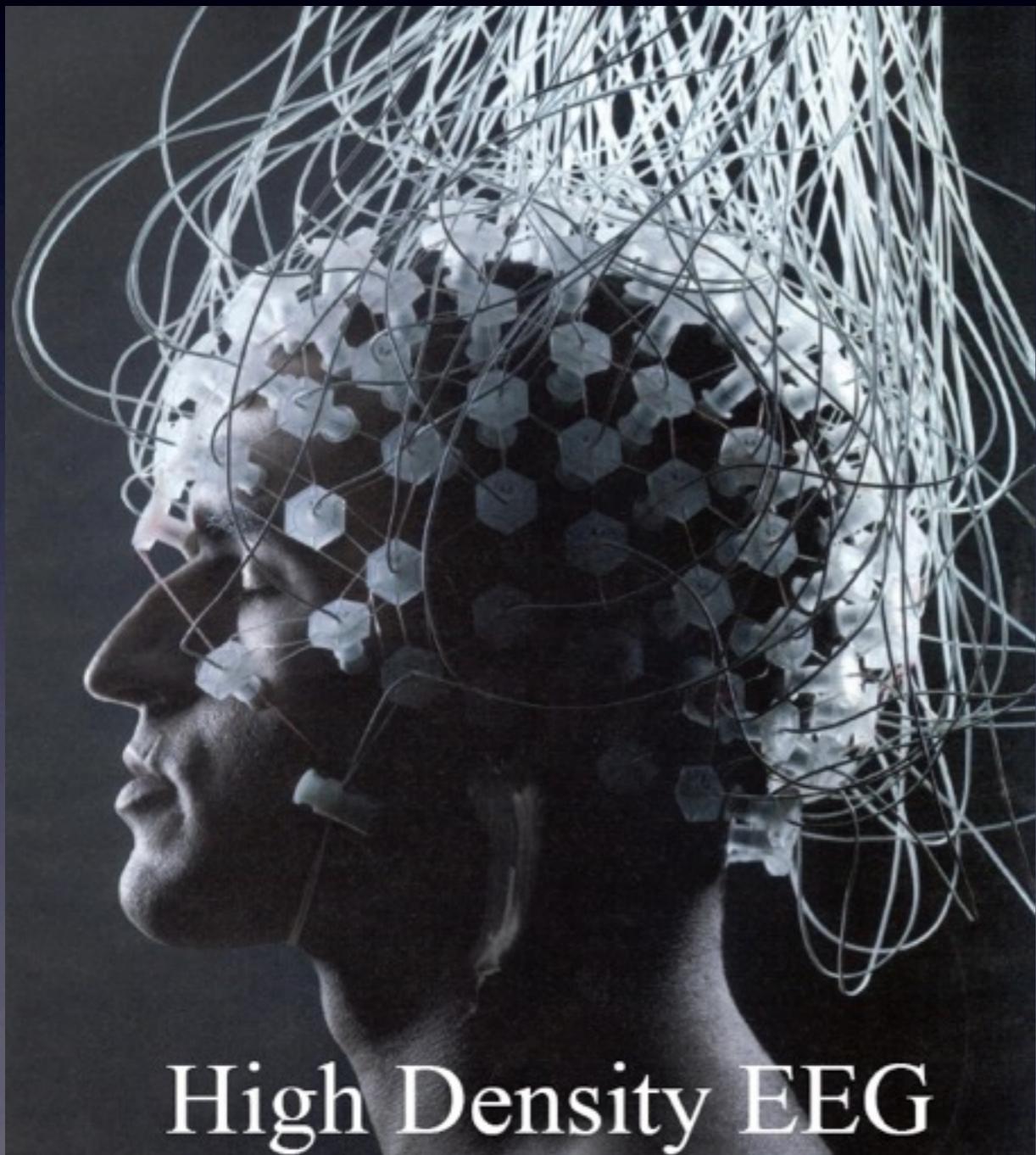
- CFM 6000
- Brainz / OBM
- Nicolet
- ....



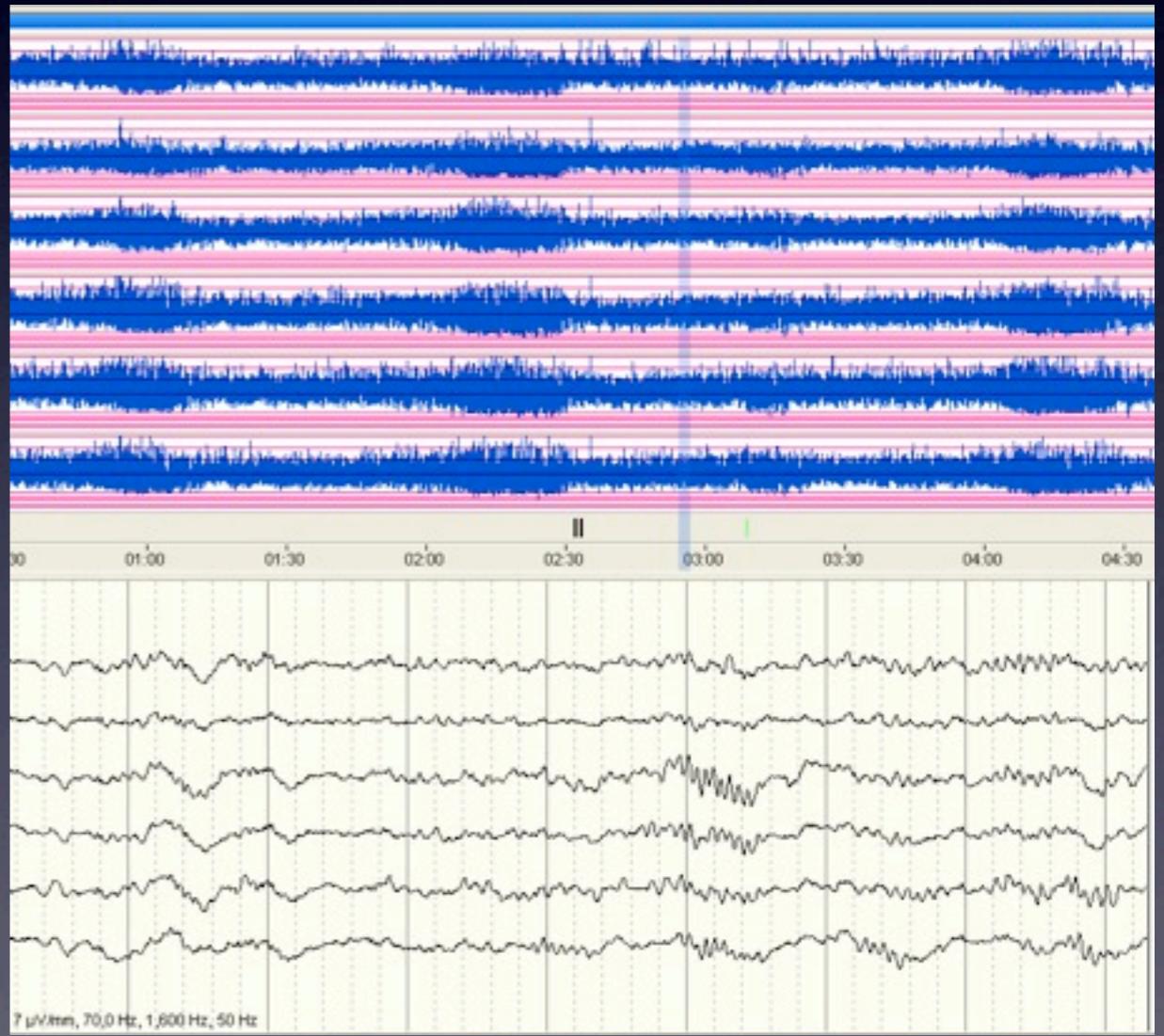
# 1- or 2-channel



# How many channels do you need ?

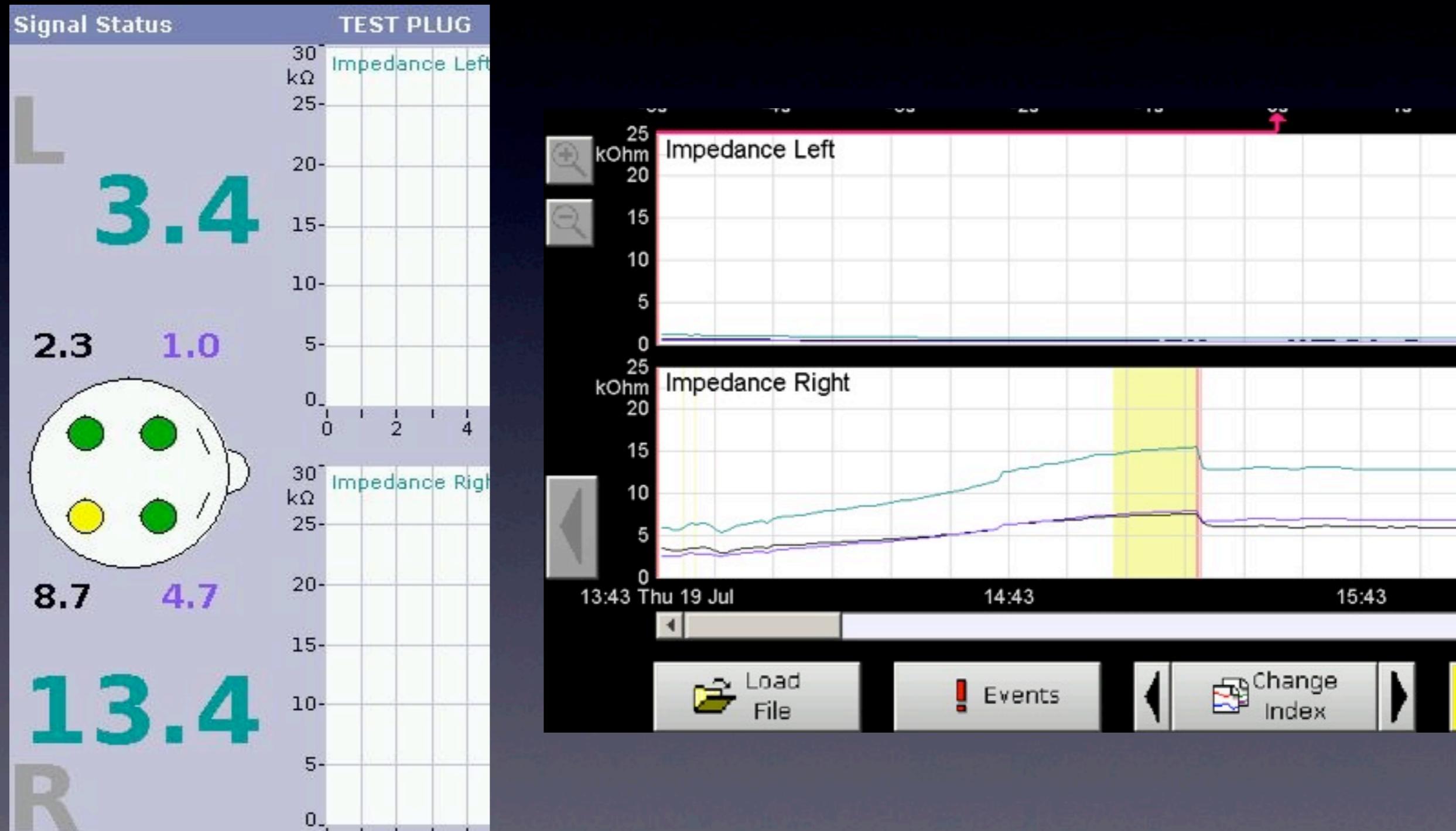


High Density EEG

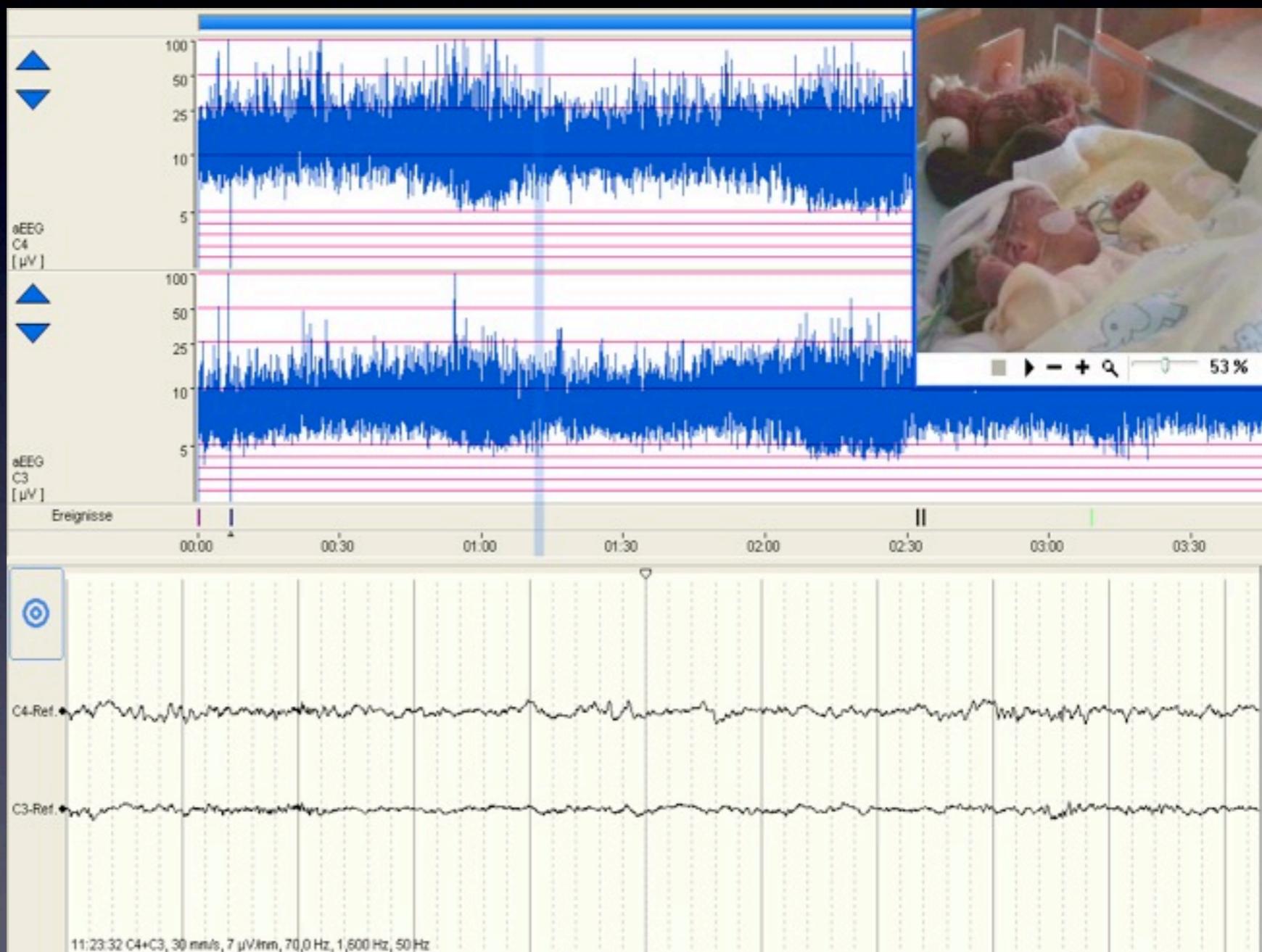


# Impedance

measured continuously in „classic“ aEEG

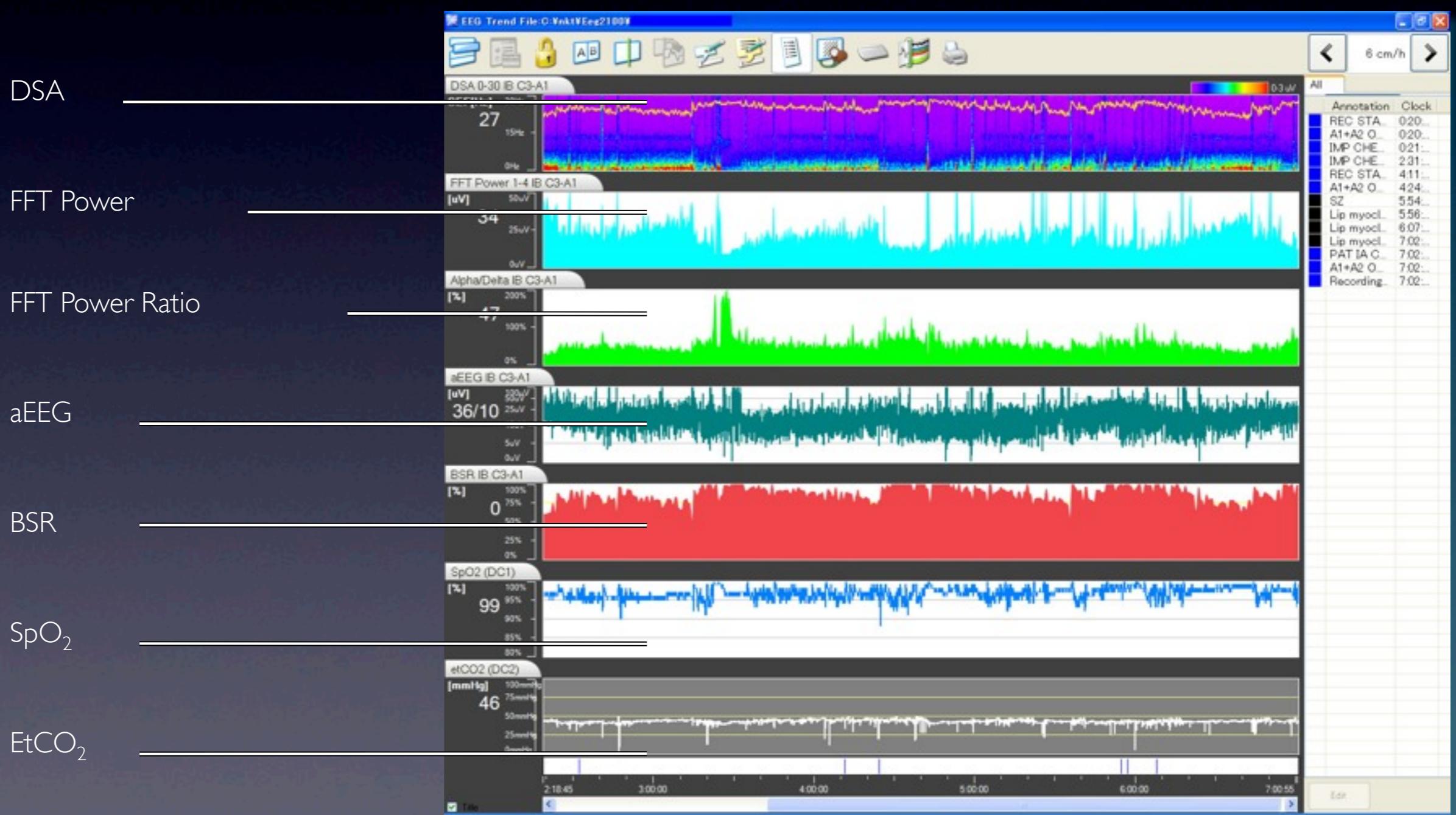


# Audio / Video



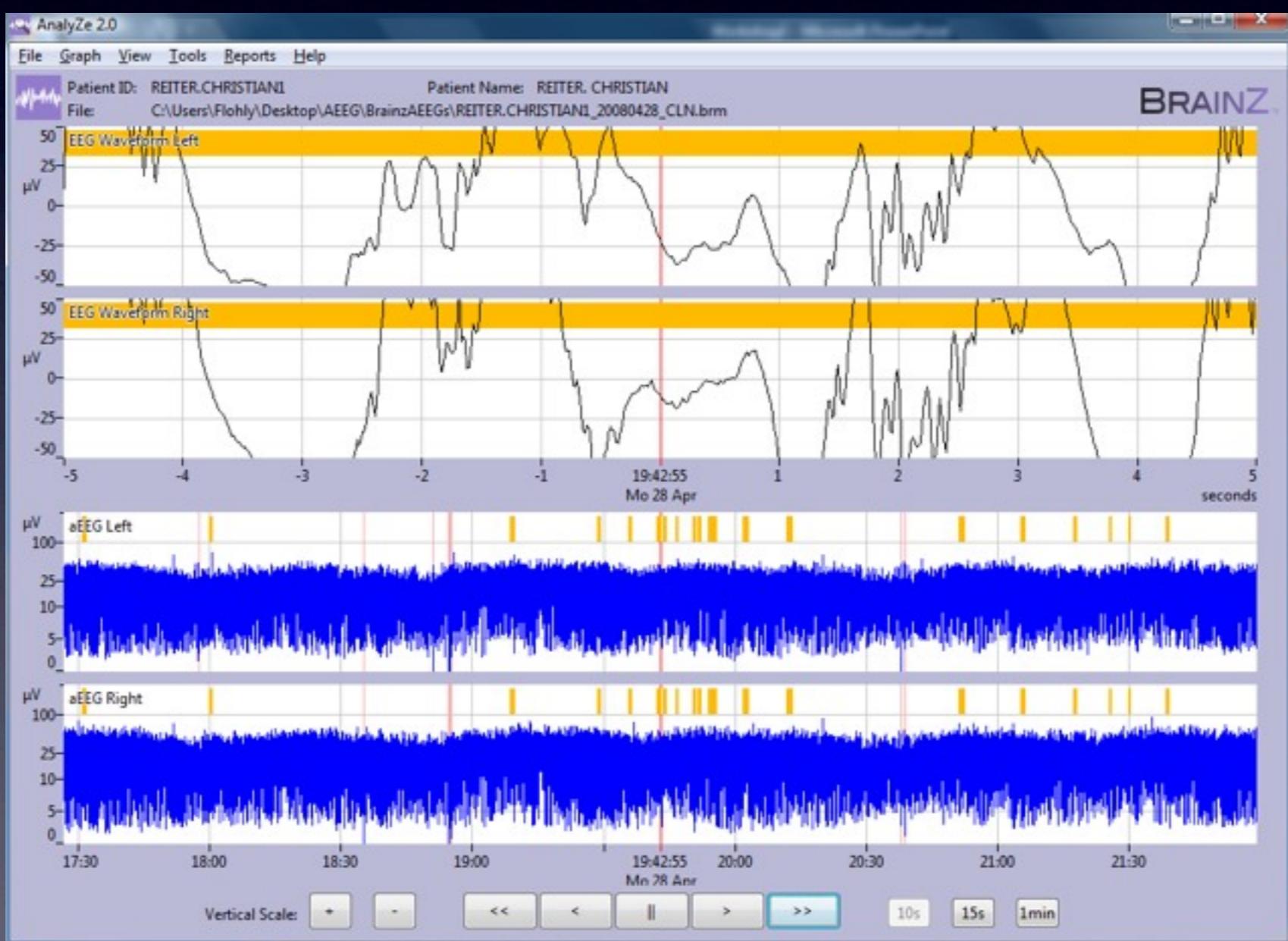
11:23:32 C4+C3, 30 mm/s, 7  $\mu$ V/mm, 70,0 Hz, 1,600 Hz, 50 Hz

# Integrated data



# Automated seizure detection

Algorithm by Navakatikyan, Sensitivity 83-95%, Specificity 48-77%



# Electrodes



**Hydrogel  
electrodes**

**Gold electrodes**

**Needle  
electrodes**

# Hydrogel electrodes



## **Advantages:**

**All-in-One concept**

**Better adhesion at the beginning**

**Seems less invasive**

**No fear in Neonatologists to handle**

## **Disadvantages:**

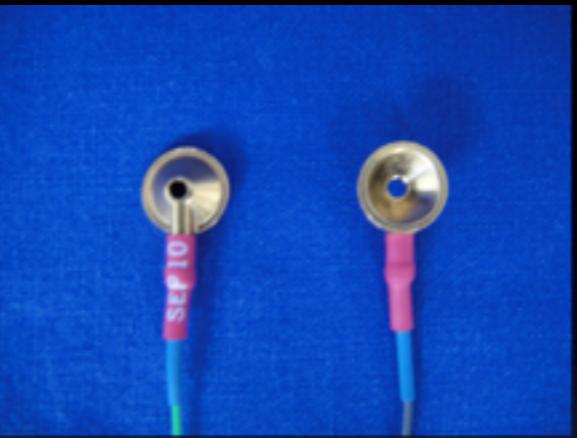
**Do not hold on very long**

**Not reusable**

**Often difficult to get good impedance / lead quality**

**Price**

# Gold electrodes



## Advantages:

**Reusable**

**Easy to refix**

**Seems less invasive**

**Often better Impedance / lead quality than hydrogel**

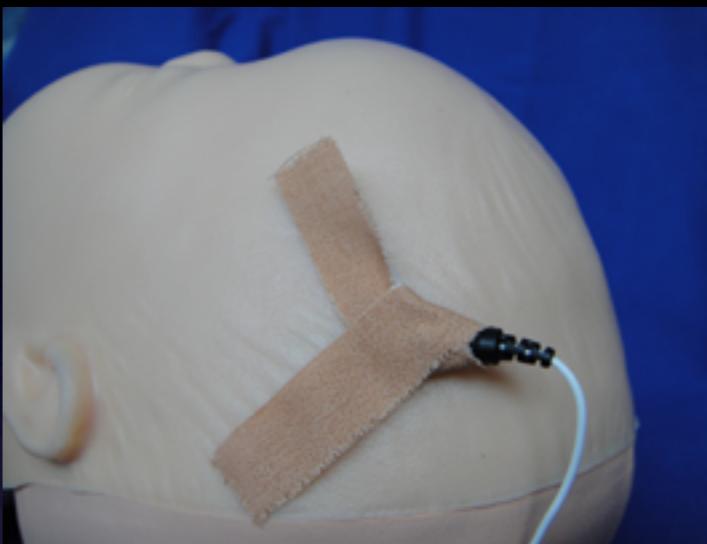
**Best and most often used by nurses in EEG labs**

## Disadvantages:

**Expensive if thrown away**

**Placement/Fixation a little more difficult to learn**

# Needle electrodes



**Advantages:**  
**Fastest placement / fixation**

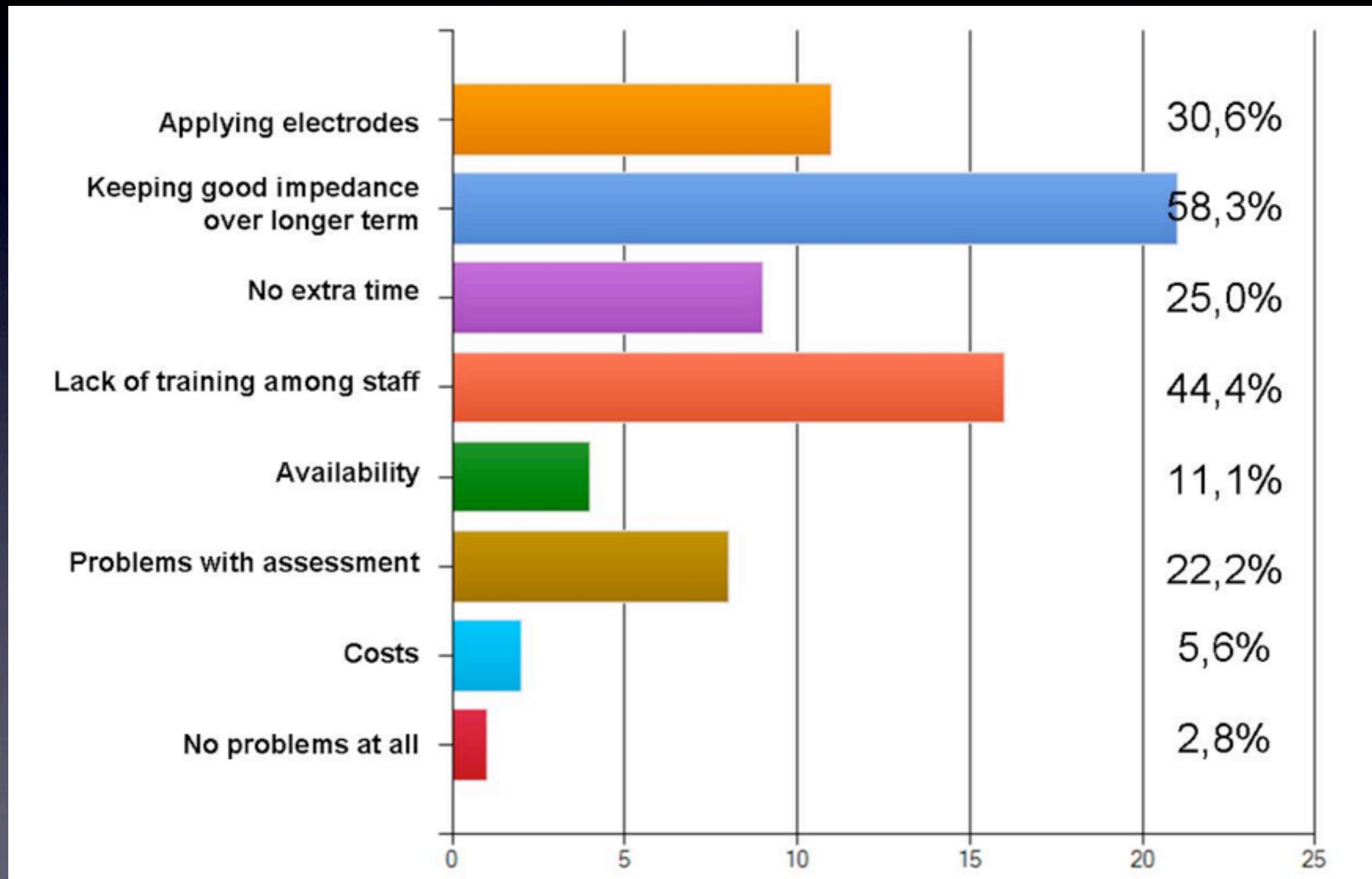
**Hair is no problem**

**Long recordings without refixing electrodes**

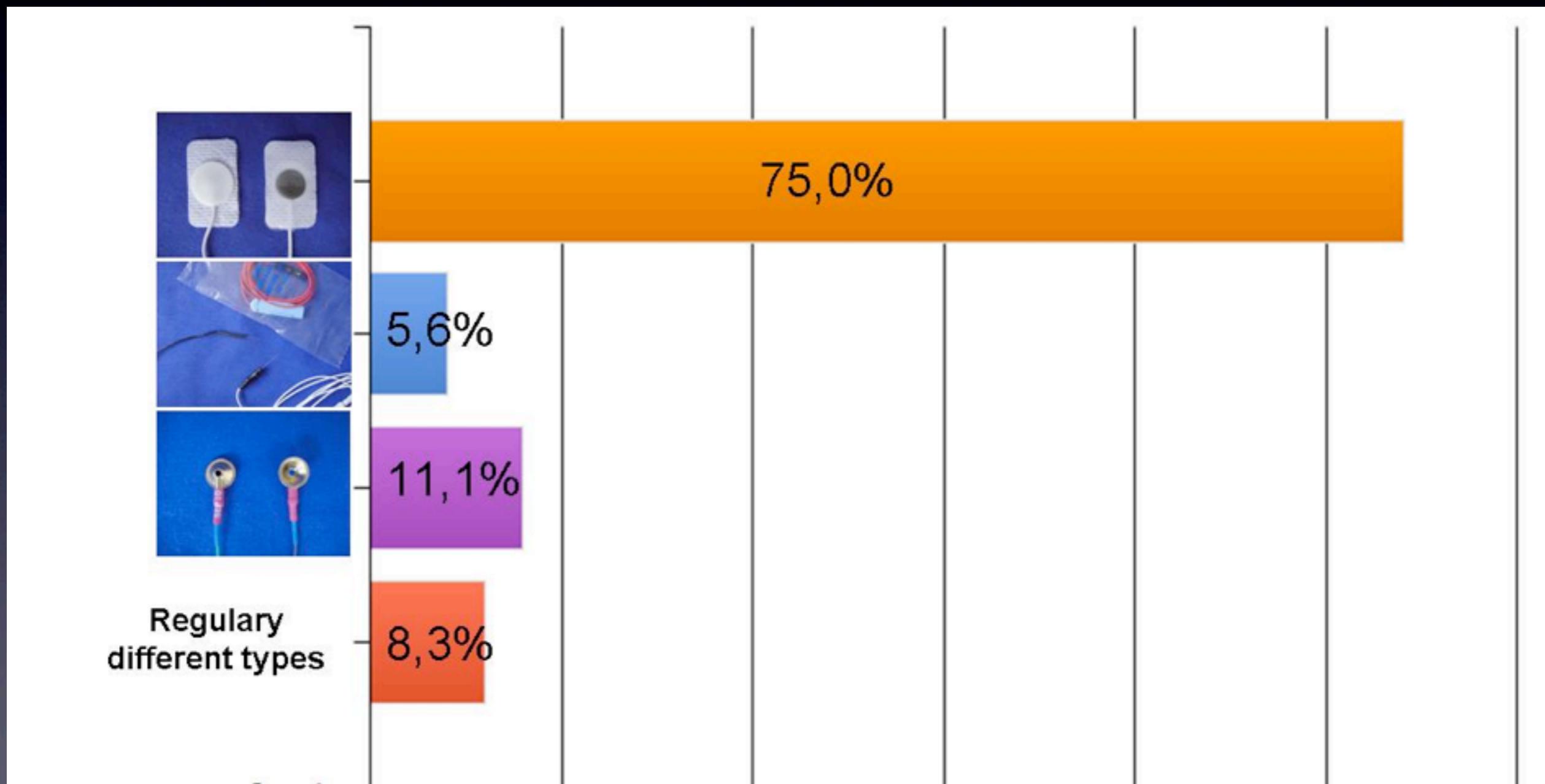
**Long term perfect Impedances / lead quality**

**Disadvantages:**  
**Expensive**  
**Seems highly invasive**  
**Potential risk of infection ?**

# What keeps you away from using aEEG more often ?



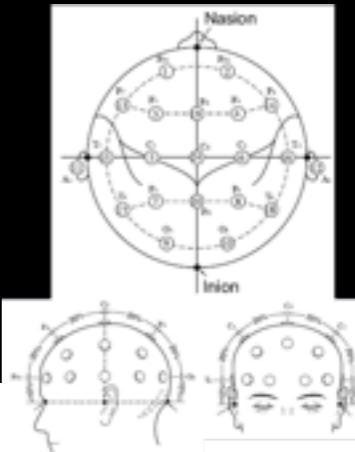
# Which type of electrodes do you typically use ?



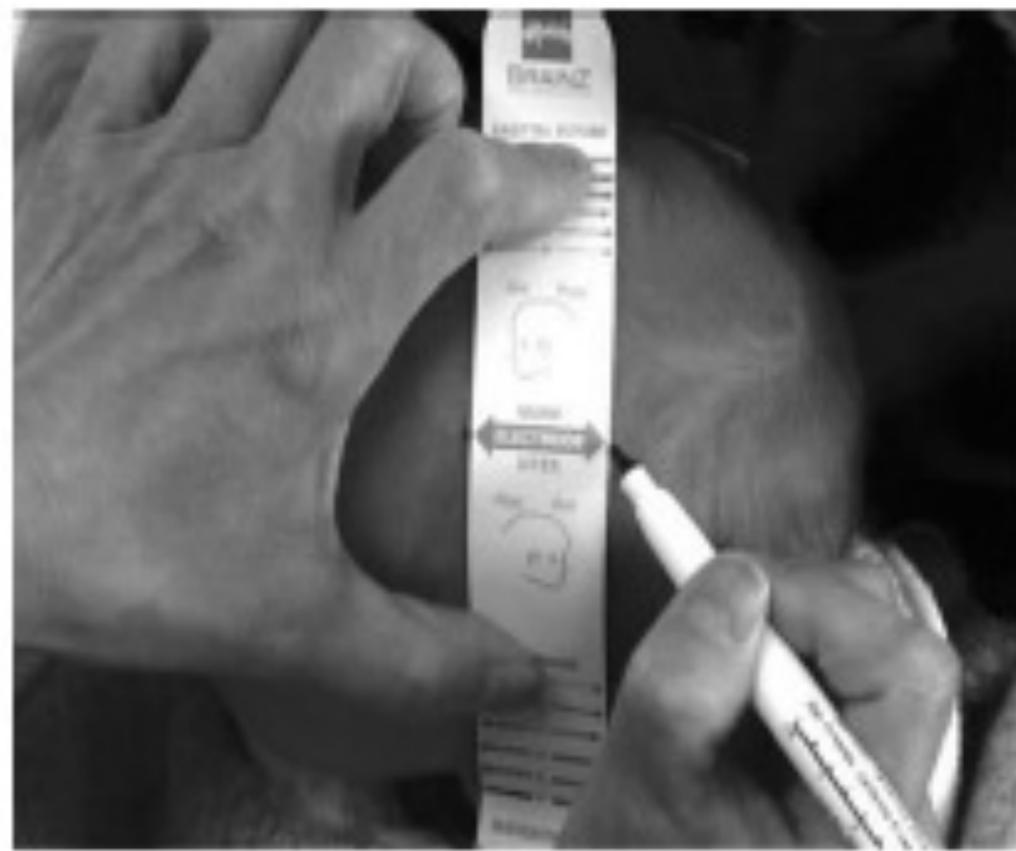
Connection between frequency of use  
and type of electrodes ??



# Positioning



P



P3

P4

C4

# aEEG and CPAP



# Let's go „hands on“



# For downloading this talk as pdf go to:



[www.schettler.eu/downloads.html](http://www.schettler.eu/downloads.html)

If you are interested, need  
help with aEEG, questions etc.

Contact me:

[Karl.Florian@Schettler.eu](mailto:Karl.Florian@Schettler.eu)

The brochure is titled "A Unique Learning Experience." It features several sections: "Basic Course fee: € 850 per person" which includes all class lecture handouts, materials on CD, a certificate of participation, DEGUM Certificate (German Society for Ultrasound in Medicine), CME credits, lunch, snacks, and refreshments; "All-Inclusive fee: €1,925 per person" which adds overnight stays at a four-star Hotel from Monday July 8th through Monday July 15th, 2013, all shuttle transfers and admission tickets to LaHo; "Special Program fee: please inquire about our special programs we have available for your spouse or companion, who plans to come with you to Landshut but is not participating in the courses and workshops." It also mentions the "Save the date: Tuesday 9th - Friday 12th, July 2013." Other sections include "Center of Paediatrics and Adolescent Medicine," "M. Mary Children's Hospital of Landshut, Germany," "Target Audience: Pediatricians, neonatalogists, pediatric intensivists, pediatric radiologists," and "Course Chairs & Faculty: Rüdiger Henschel, MD; Prof. Karl-Heinz Döpf, MD; Johannes Hamann, MD; Florian Schettler, MD." The brochure also features images of the Landshuter Hochzeit festival and the M. Mary Children's Hospital.

# First announcement...

Munich International Conference

**Improvement of  
neurodevelopmental outcome  
in Neonatology**

**July 6th, 2013**

**with Pre-Conference:**

**The amplitude-integrated EEG (aEEG) in  
Neonatology  
on July 5th, 2013**