

E-Pearl of the Week

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Early electrodiagnostic changes in Guillain-Barré syndrome

The earliest electrodiagnostic changes seen in Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) are:

- Loss of an H-reflex
- Loss of F-waves
- Temporal dispersion of the compound muscle action potential on motor nerve conduction studies
- Prolonged distal latencies

These findings are patchy, particularly in early GBS, and the physician must look carefully for them and closely scrutinize the CMAP waveforms.

Other parameters, like significantly slowed conduction velocities, are relatively uncommon in early GBS.