

E-Pearl of the Week

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The post-ictal salute

Todd's paralysis is a widely known post-ictal phenomenon in which there is transient weakness of the limbs contralateral to the epileptogenic cortex. Another useful sign is the "post-ictal salute," in which a patient will wipe his or her nose with the hand *ipsilateral* to the cortex where the seizure originated. Rhinorrhea often develops during seizures due to increased autonomic activity. This reinforces the idea that careful observation of post-ictal behavior can be fruitful in terms of lesion localization.

Contributed by Shanna Patterson, MD, Columbia University.