



## 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**