

Psychosis after epilepsy surgery: report of three cases.

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Abstract

Temporal lobe epilepsy surgery has become a successful alternative in patients with refractory epilepsy. However, the outcome of epilepsy surgery may be affected by the occurrence of postsurgical psychiatric symptoms, such as psychosis. This report describes three cases of refractory temporal lobe epilepsy and hippocampal sclerosis, which, after anterior temporal lobectomy, presented with acute psychosis. One of them had a history of acute psychosis, and all of them met criteria for Cluster A personality disorder (schizoid/schizotypal) during psychiatric assessment prior to surgery. The three cases had a good seizure outcome (Engel I), but, on follow-up during the first year after surgery, developed an acute psychotic episode compatible with schizoaffective disorder; brief psychotic disorder; and a delusional disorder, respectively, according to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition. Treatment with low-dose risperidone was successful.