It is well known that many patients, particularly those with chronic seizures, exhibit certain emotional symptoms, such as depression. Persons with seizures on awakening, for example juvenile myoclonic epilepsy, are more often depressed than others. This effect can be seen even in patients with temporal lobe epilepsy, more often than others, may have personality disturbances. The reason that these symptoms have been linked with epilepsy is not known. It seems possible that some epilepsy patients have altered attention processes, which may be a factor in the development of depression. It has been suggested that some depression may be a result of the antiepileptic medication used to treat epilepsy. It is believed that certain antiepileptic drugs, such as phenobarbital, can cause depression in some patients. It is also possible that the stress and anxiety associated with epilepsy may contribute to the development of depression.

Aura
Simple partial seizures may be associated with symptoms such as automatic actions or loss of awareness. These symptoms can last from a few seconds to a few minutes. Simple partial seizures and absence seizures, which are caused by focal discharges, can be distinguished from other types of seizures. Absence seizures are characterized by the person being alert for a short period before the seizure occurs. The person may not be aware of the seizure, but may experience a loss of consciousness. After the seizure, the person may be confused or disoriented for a short time. Simple partial seizures may be due to discharges in various areas of the brain, but they are more commonly seen in people with temporal lobe epilepsy. These seizures are characterized by a feeling of unease or by sensations, such as seeing flashing lights or hearing noises. The symptoms can last for a few seconds to a few minutes.

Post-ictal phase
After an epileptic seizure, in the post-ictal phase, there can be in some cases, a period of confusion or disorientation. The symptoms may consist of the person keeping stubbornly on and on despite what is happening. This is called perseveration, and it can be seen in people with temporal lobe epilepsy. After an epileptic seizure, the person may be confused or disoriented for a short time. The symptoms can last for a few seconds to a few minutes. The symptoms are often seen in patients who have had many seizures. It is not clear how long the symptoms last, but they are usually seen in the first few minutes after the seizure.

Epilepsy as a social and psychological handicap
Epilepsy can have a significant impact on a person's social and psychological well-being. People with epilepsy may experience social rejection or discrimination due to their seizure disorder. This can lead to feelings of isolation, anxiety, and depression. It is important to note that not all people with epilepsy experience these problems, and that a person's social and psychological well-being is influenced by many factors, including their personal experiences and attitudes, their support system, and the social and cultural context in which they live. It is also important to recognize that epilepsy can have a positive impact on a person's life, as it can provide opportunities for growth and change.

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