Reviewer's report

Title: Laugh Induced Seizure in an Adult; an unusual cause of Seizure: a case report

Version: 1 Date: 23 January 2013

Reviewer: Maarika Liik

Which of the following best describes what type of case report this is?: Unexpected or unusual presentations of a disease

Has the case been reported coherently?: Yes

Is the case report authentic?: Yes

Is the case report ethical?: Yes

Is there any missing information that you think must be added before publication?: Yes

Is this case worth reporting?: Yes

Is the case report persuasive?: Yes

Does the case report have explanatory value?: Yes

Does the case report have diagnostic value?: Yes

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: Yes

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

Laughter induced seizures are definitely interesting and clinically relevant phenomena to report.

Overall, the case is written satisfactorily.

I suppose the paper would benefit if authors would clearly separate laughter induced seizures and gelastic seizures. In this case, laughter seems to be the precipitant of seizures and not a symptom of seizures, as would be expected in gelastic seizures. Therefore, the semiology, etiology etc. could be totally different.

Regarding case presentation, I would like to ask about the seizure frequency. Also, could it be specified what altered sensorium means? How was his consciousness tested? What does “brief body jerking” exactly mean? Could the
seizure semiology be more specifically described?

Even though, the EEG and MRI did not reveal any localizing information, could it be discussed where the seizures originated and what was the possible etiology. It would be highly probable that a middle-aged man developing newly diagnosed epilepsy would have a symptomatic cause for that.

Why was he instantly placed on polytherapy?

I would expect that the authors would discuss about laughter as a possible provoking factor of epileptic seizures. How does that fit into the context of other provoking factors?

I could not agree with the statement in the second paragraph of the discussion regarding feelings of mirth not being associated with seizures. I would say that there is a specific subtype of seizures associated with mirth and pleasant feelings and this is covered in literature.

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Declaration of competing interests:**

Nothing to declare.