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## Classification as autonomic versus sensory seizures

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## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

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served on scientific advisory boards for UCB, Eisai, GlaxoSmithKline, BioMarin, Nutricia, and Xenon Pharmaceuticals; has served on editorial boards for *Annals of Neurology*, *Neurology*, and *Epileptic Disorders*; may accrue future revenue on pending patent WO61/010176 (filed: 2008; Therapeutic Compound); has received speaker honoraria from GlaxoSmithKline, Athena Diagnostics, UCB, BioMarin, and Eisai; has received funding for travel from Athena Diagnostics, UCB, Biocodex, GlaxoSmithKline, Biomarin, and Eisai; and has received research support from the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia, National Institutes of Health, Australian Research Council, Health Research Council of New Zealand, CURE, and March of Dimes. E.S. has no disclosures relevant to this publication but has performed clinical trials for, consulted to, received speaker fees from, and/or received travel support from Eisai, UCB Pharma, Zynerva, SK Life Sciences, Sci-Gen, Marinus, Upsher-Smith, Bial, Novartis, the Epilepsy Study Consortium, the New South Wales Ombudsman, and the National Transport Commission of Australia. M.R.S. has consulted for Medtronic, Eisai, and NeurologyLive and has research contracts with SK Life Science, UCB Pharma, Eisai, Neurelis, Medtronic, Takeda, Cavion, and Engage. S.M.W. has received unrestricted educational grants from UCB Pharma and Eisai. E.M.Y. has received speaker fees from Abbott and UCB. None of the other authors has any conflict of interest to disclose.

We confirm that we have read the Journal's position on issues involved in ethical publication and affirm that this report is consistent with those guidelines.

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Common symptoms of focal seizures include hot or cold skin sensations or a “rising sense” through the body. Both of these are sometimes, but not always, mediated by the autonomic nervous system <sup>1</sup>. The 2017 ILAE Classification of seizures <sup>2,3</sup> does not clarify whether these sensations indicate a focal autonomic or focal sensory seizure. Therefore, the ILAE task force on classification of seizures has issued the following clarification.

Some sensations, particularly a rising sensation or diffuse hot-cold sensations, may be classified either as autonomic or sensory. These symptoms often are associated with other autonomic symptoms or signs, such as nausea, vomiting, flushing, piloerection or palpitations, marking them clearly as autonomic. In the absence of accompanying autonomic symptoms, it is

acceptable to classify the seizure as either focal autonomic or focal sensory, depending upon the clinical context.

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