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Case Report of Syncope during a Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation Experiment in a Healthy Adult Participant

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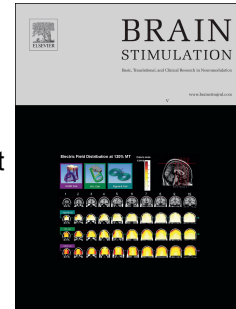
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Case Report of Syncope during a Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation Experiment in a Healthy Adult Participant

Dear Editor:

We report the following syncope case observed during a transcranial direct current stimulation (tDCS) study. There are no known cases of syncope during tDCS with human participants [1-2]. The participant was a healthy, 23 year old female. In the prescreening questionnaire she disclosed no history of prior closed head injury, loss of consciousness, family history of epilepsy, or history of seizures or febrile seizures [3-4]. The only medication that she reported taking was the oral contraceptive Lutera. On the day of the event, the participant reported no additional risk factors such as sleep pattern changes or deprivation, changes in food and water consumption, medication changes, occult drug use, or high doses of caffeine.

Cathodal tDCS stimulation was delivered over the right temporoparietal junction (CP6) with an intensity of 2mA using a 4x1 ring electrode montage. We used a neuroConn DC-Stimulator MC (München, Germany) to administer the stimulation. The participant had not previously undergone tDCS.

The setting was an on-campus research lab that conducts non-clinical decision making experiments. The participant was seated on a chair with her back supported and both feet on the floor. The event occurred about one minute into the stimulation procedure. The participant informed the experimenters that she felt nauseous and dizzy, and the experimenters asked the participant if she was feeling all right and if she would like to continue. The participant responded that she wanted to stop the procedure and the experimenters terminated the

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