

4° CORSO RESIDENZIALE  
**EEG e POTENZIALI EVOCATI**

22 – 27 NOVEMBRE 2021

**PE visivi: aspetti metodologici  
e applicazioni cliniche**



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UNIVERSITÀ DEL PIEMONTE ORIENTALE

27 novembre 2021



# Sommario

- 1. Dall'EEG ai PEV**
- 2. Come si fanno?**
- 3. A cosa servono?**
- 4. Spunti di ricerca**



*Sli 5 Hz*



*Sli 10 Hz*

# Trascinamento fotico

Risposta fisiologica con attività EEG ritmica in risposta alla SLI.

- frequenza: identica o armonica della SLI.
- durata: limita alla SLI.
- risposta evocata, massima sulle regioni posteriori
- si riferisce ai potenziali evocati visivi steady state (S-PEV)
- contiene: Ongoing EEG spontaneo + risposte evocate + artefatti



- I **PE** da *flash* individuati nei primi anni della storia dell'elettroencefalografia
- Talora si distinguono nell'attività di fondo registrata dallo scalpo, sulle derivazioni occipitali

DECEMBER, 1934.

# BRAIN.

PART 4, VOL. 57.

## THE BERGER RHYTHM: POTENTIAL CHANGES FROM THE OCCIPITAL LOBES IN MAN.

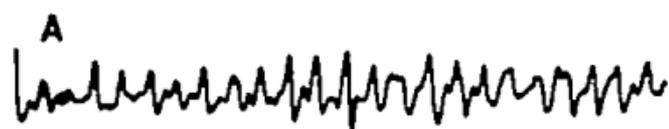
BY E. D. ADRIAN AND B. H. C. MATTHEWS.

*(From the Physiological Laboratory, Cambridge.)*



Lord Adrian: 45 anni

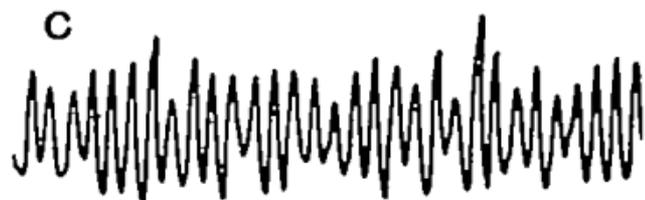
Matthews: 28 anni



8 per sec



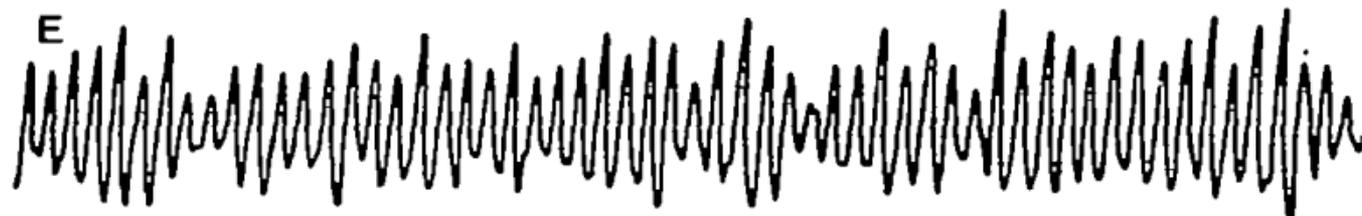
Shut



12 per sec.



18 per sec.



10 per sec

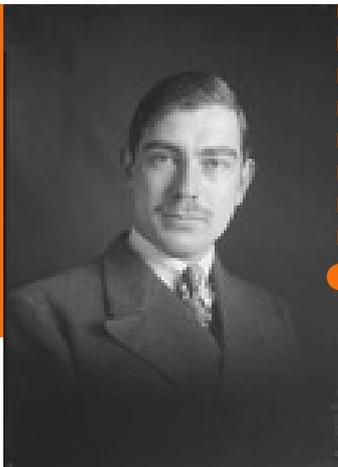


FIG. 19.—Examples of different rhythms induced by flicker. Subject E. D. A. Signal line shows frequency of flicker.

- A. Flicker at 8 a sec.
- B. Eyes closed and field dark. Berger rhythm at 10 a sec.
- C. Flicker at 12 a sec.
- D. Flicker at 18 a sec.
- E. Flicker at 10 a sec. Compare with B.

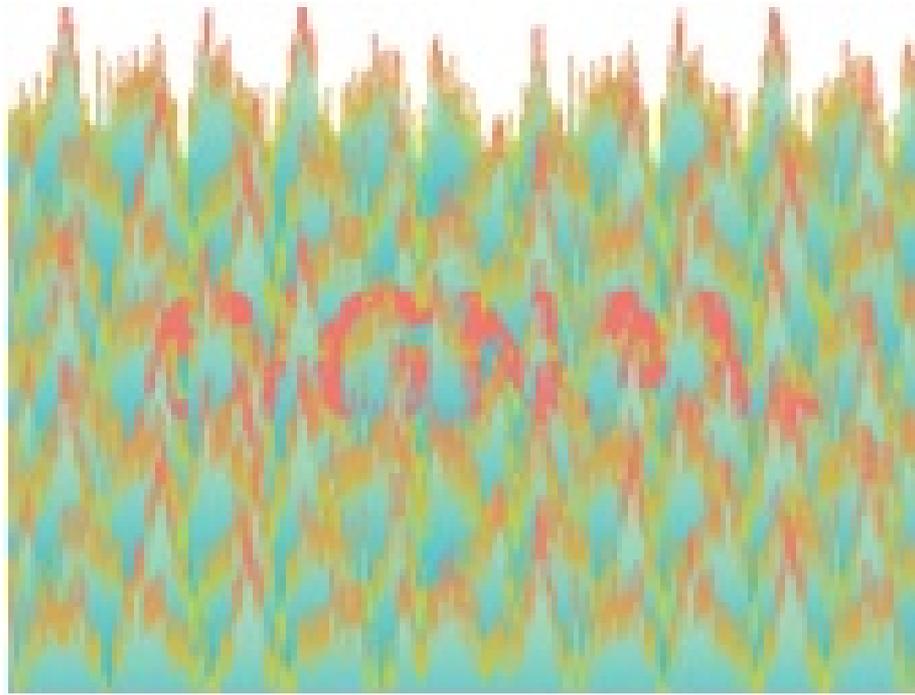


One of us (E.D.A.) gives the rhythm as soon as the eyes are closed, and maintains it with rare and brief intermissions as long as they remain closed. The other (B.H.C.M.) is better in the role of observer than of subject, for in him the rhythm may not appear at all at the beginning of an examination, and seldom persists for long without intermission.



Adrian ED, Matthews BH. The Berger rhythm: potential changes from the occipital lobes in man. *Brain* 1934;57:355 3-85.

# Rapporto segnale-rumore



Nella maggioranza dei soggetti sani la forma di questi potenziali è oscurata dai potenziali cerebrali spontanei, relativamente più ampi.

# A SUMMATION TECHNIQUE FOR THE DETECTION OF SMALL EVOKED POTENTIALS

G. D. DAWSON, M.B., M.Sc.

*Neurological Research Unit, Medical Research Council, The National Hospital,  
Queen Square, London*

(Received for publication: July 10, 1953)

“the discrimination against irregular deflections, in favour of those waves regularly evoked by the stimuli, would be greatly increased if the records could in some way be added instead of being superimposed”.

= signal averaging!



# PE visivi

potenziali elettrici generati in seguito a stimoli visivi, estratti dall'attività EEG, a livello della corteccia visiva, registrata da elettrodi posti sullo scalpo in sede occipitale

= quantificare la funzione del sistema visivo nel contesto clinico.



Left half of field of view

Region of overlap of two visual fields

Visual field of right eye

Right half of field of view

Central 1°

Optic chiasm

Information from left half of visual field (green)

Visual field of left eye

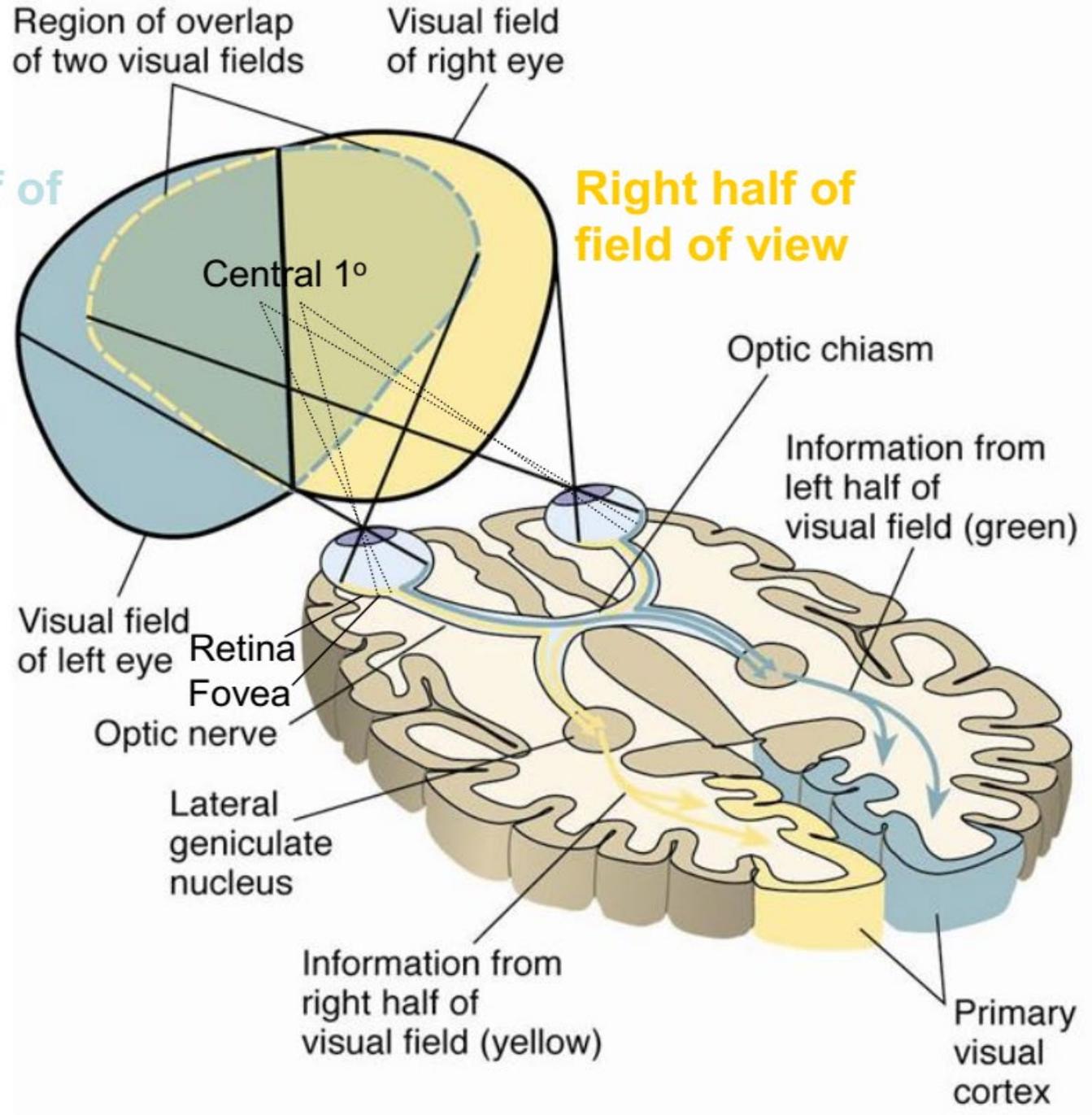
Retina  
Fovea

Optic nerve

Lateral geniculate nucleus

Information from right half of visual field (yellow)

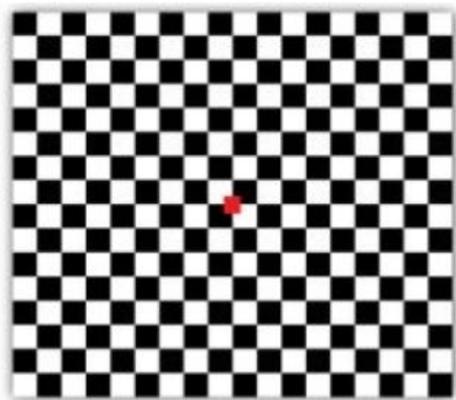
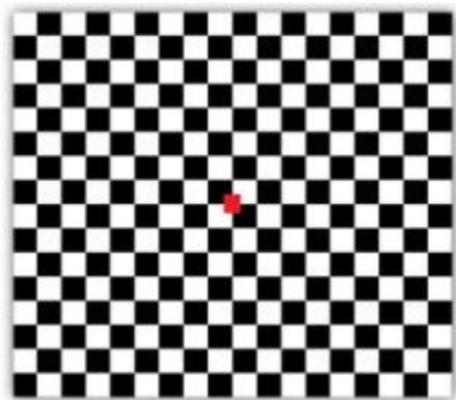
Primary visual cortex



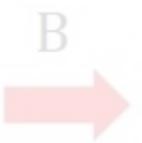
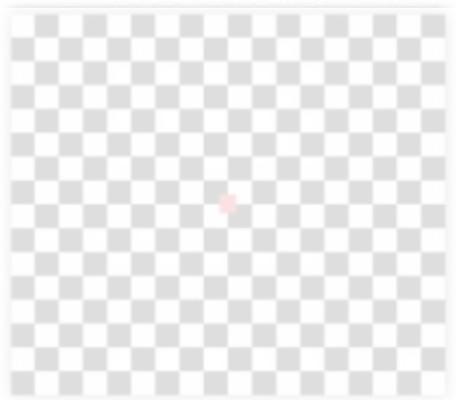
# PE visivi

La morfologia dei PEV dipende fortemente da:

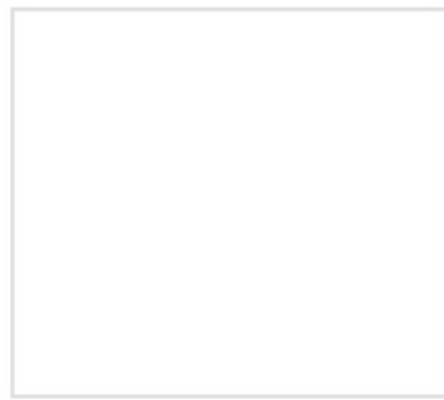
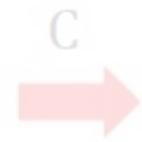
1. *caratteristiche dello **stimolo***
2. ***frequenza** di stimolazione*



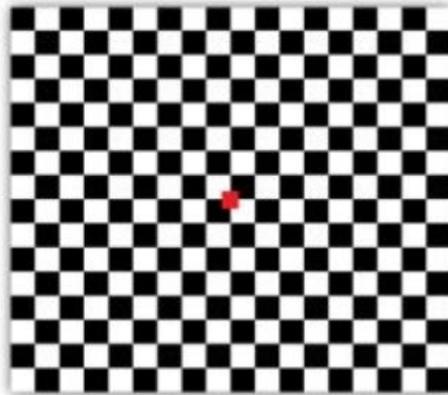
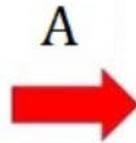
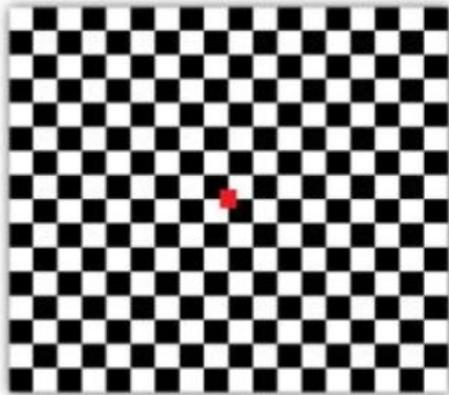
**PR-PEV**



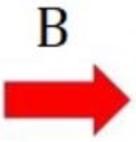
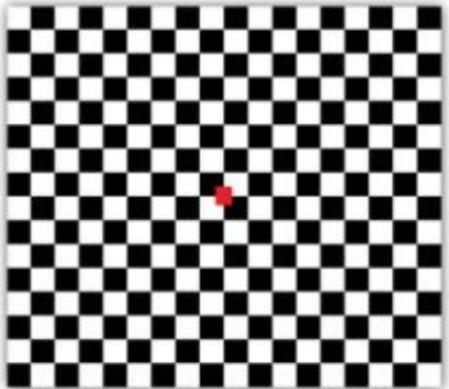
Pattern  
onset PEV



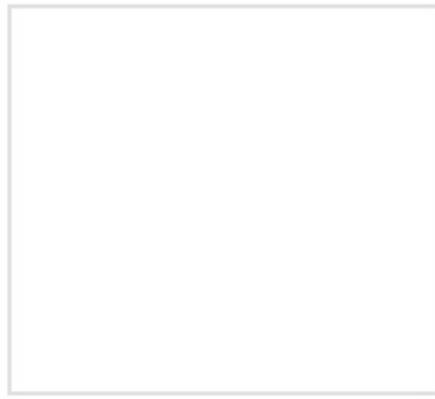
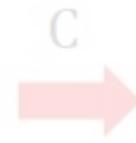
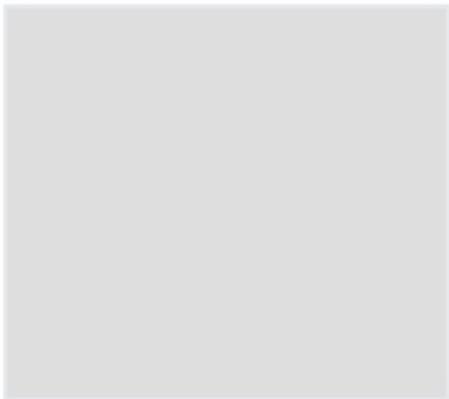
Flash PEV



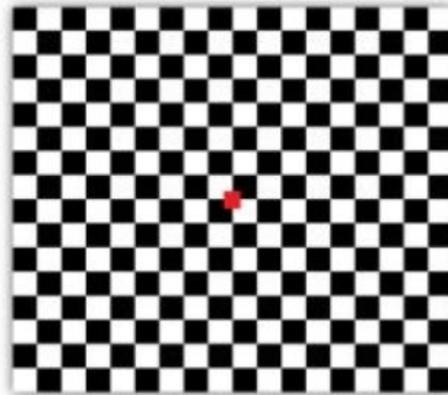
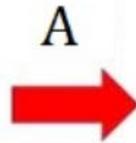
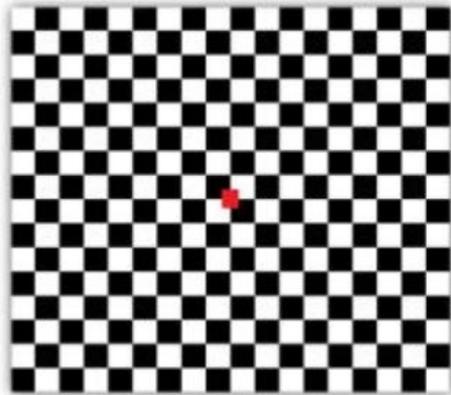
**PR-PEV**



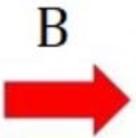
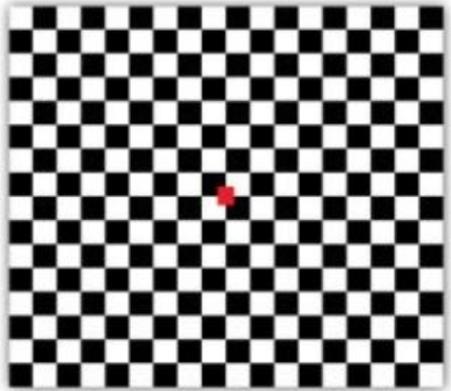
**Pattern  
onset PEV**



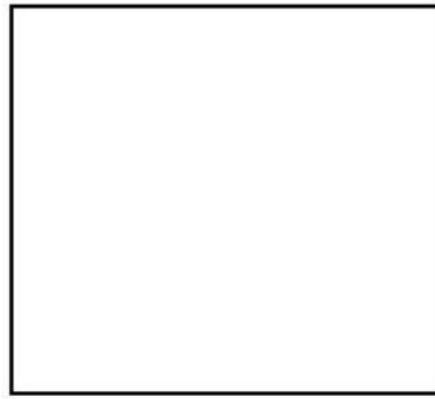
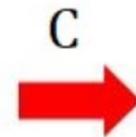
**Flash PEV**



**PR-PEV**



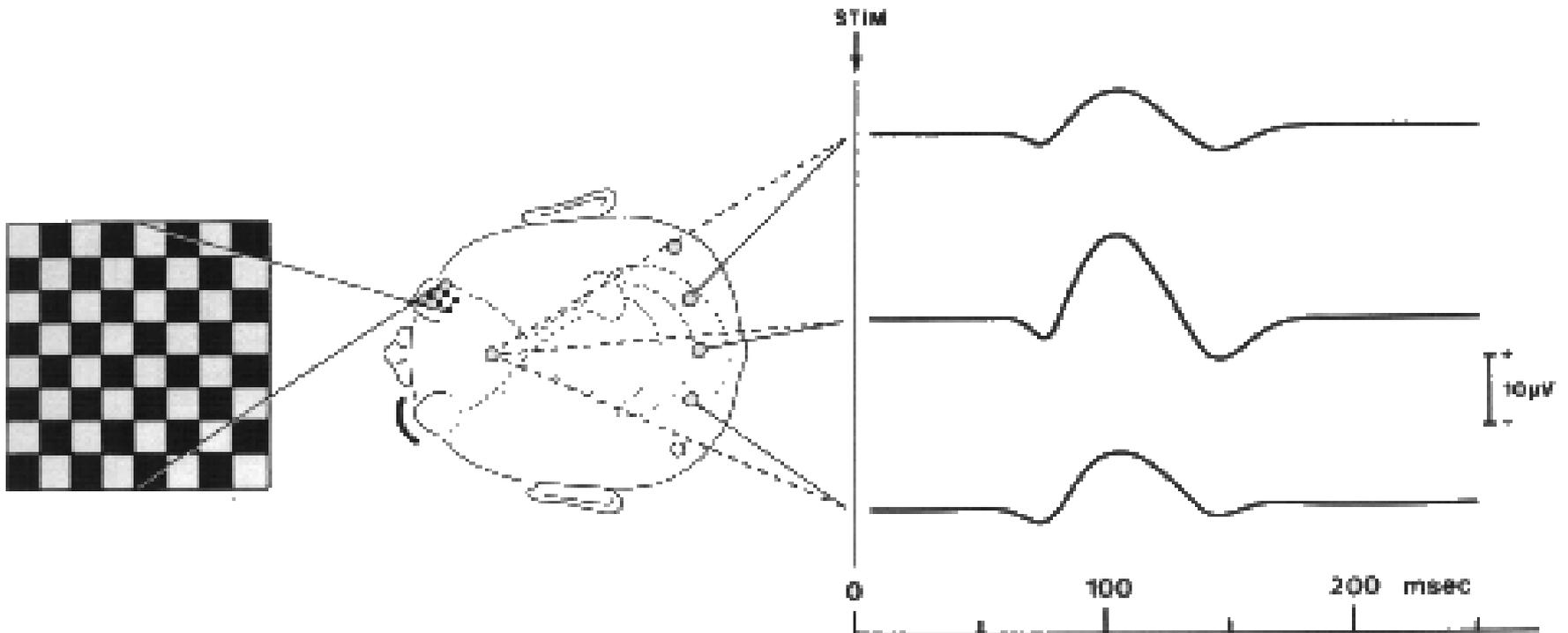
**Pattern  
onset PEV**



**Flash PEV**

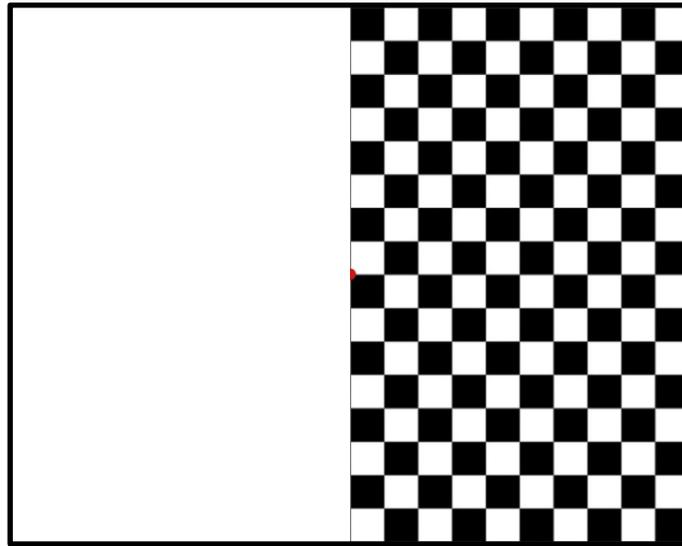
# Full field - emicampo

- **Full-Field:** il pattern si estende in misura uguale in entrambe le direzioni rispetto al punto di fissazione



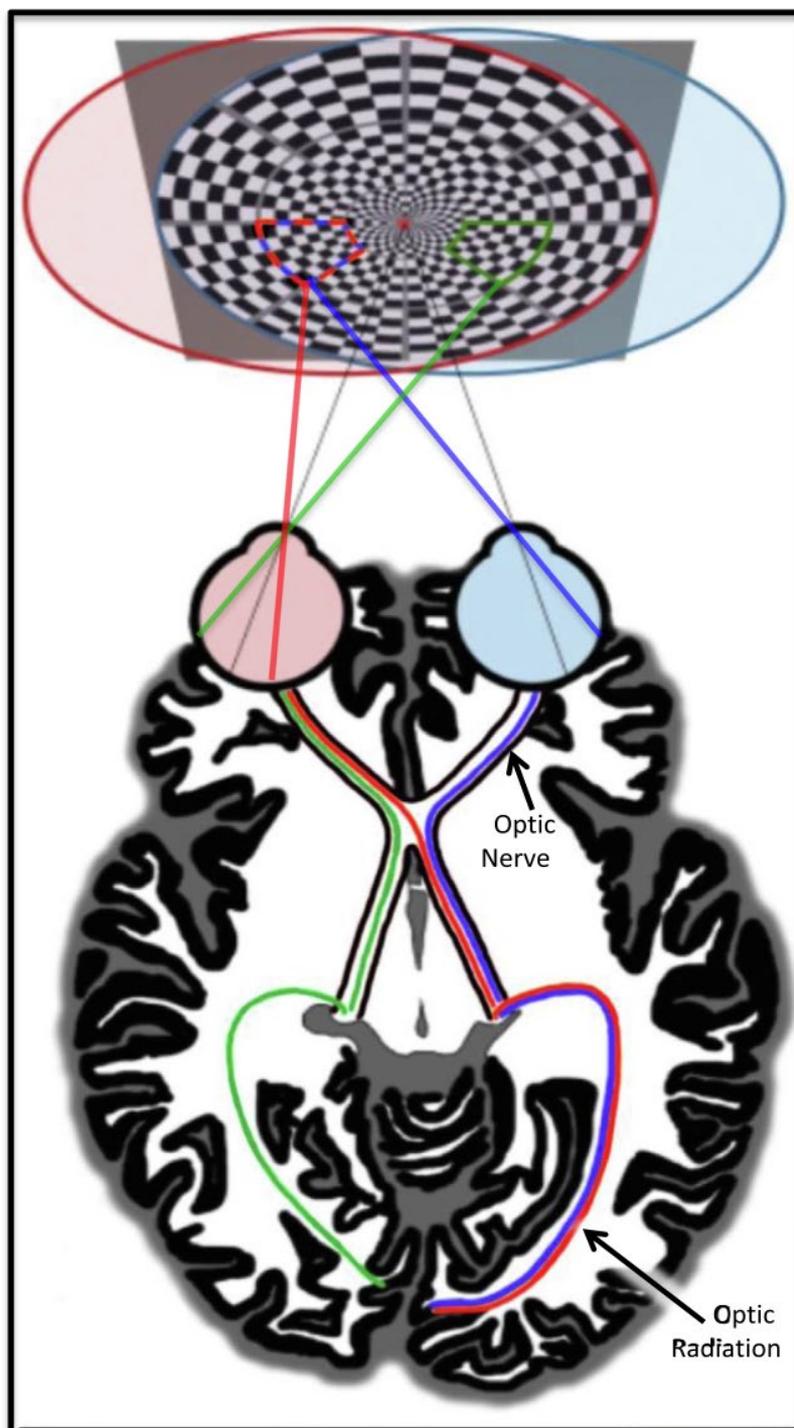
# Full field - emicampo

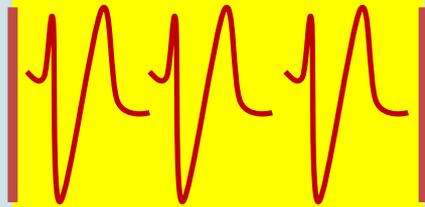
- **Partial-Field (emicampo):** solo una metà del campo visivo contiene lo stimolo pattern. Emicampi verticali.



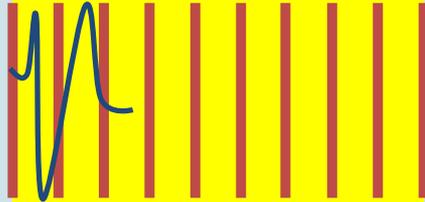
# PEV multifocali

- Sequenza pseudo-random di stimoli (Sutter, 1991) con pattern focale
- Registrazione di PEV indipendenti da diverse parti del campo visivo





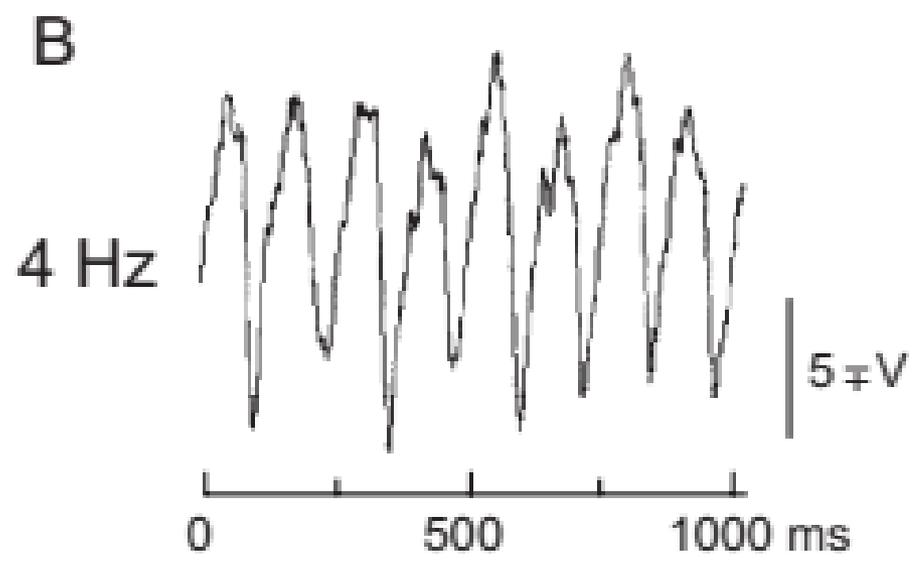
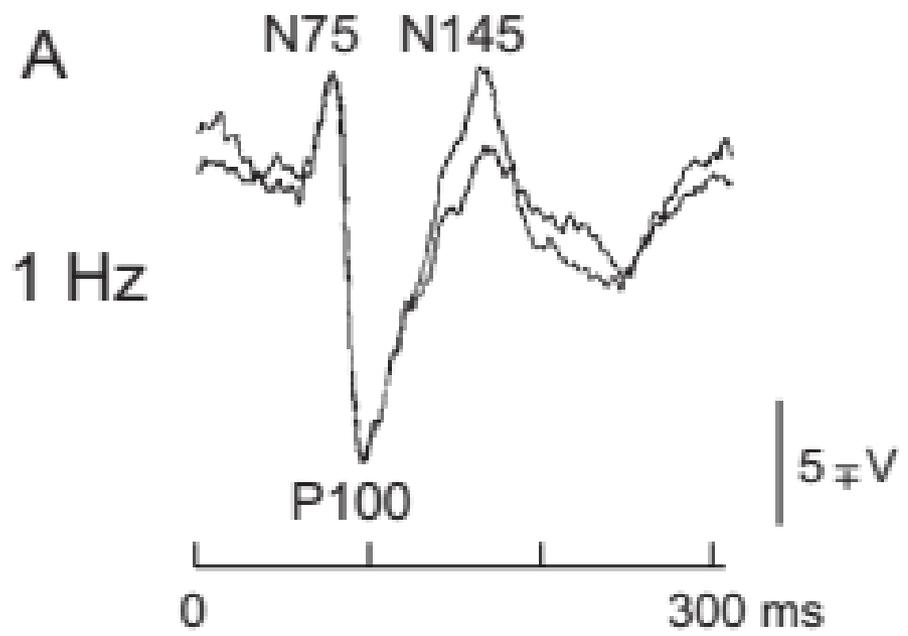
1 secondo



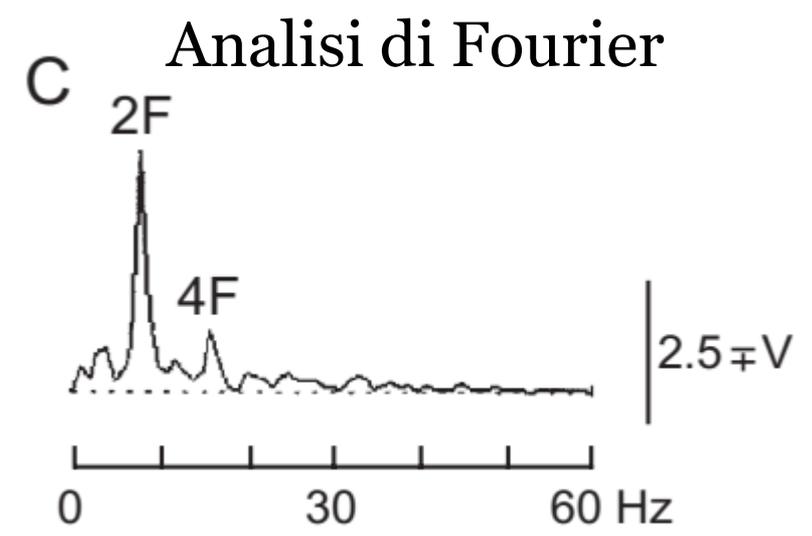
- ***transient (T-PEV)***: stimolazione a bassa frequenza (1 - 3 Hz) > utilizzato nella pratica clinica.

- ***steady state (S-PEV)***: stimolazione ad alta frequenza (> 3-4 Hz)

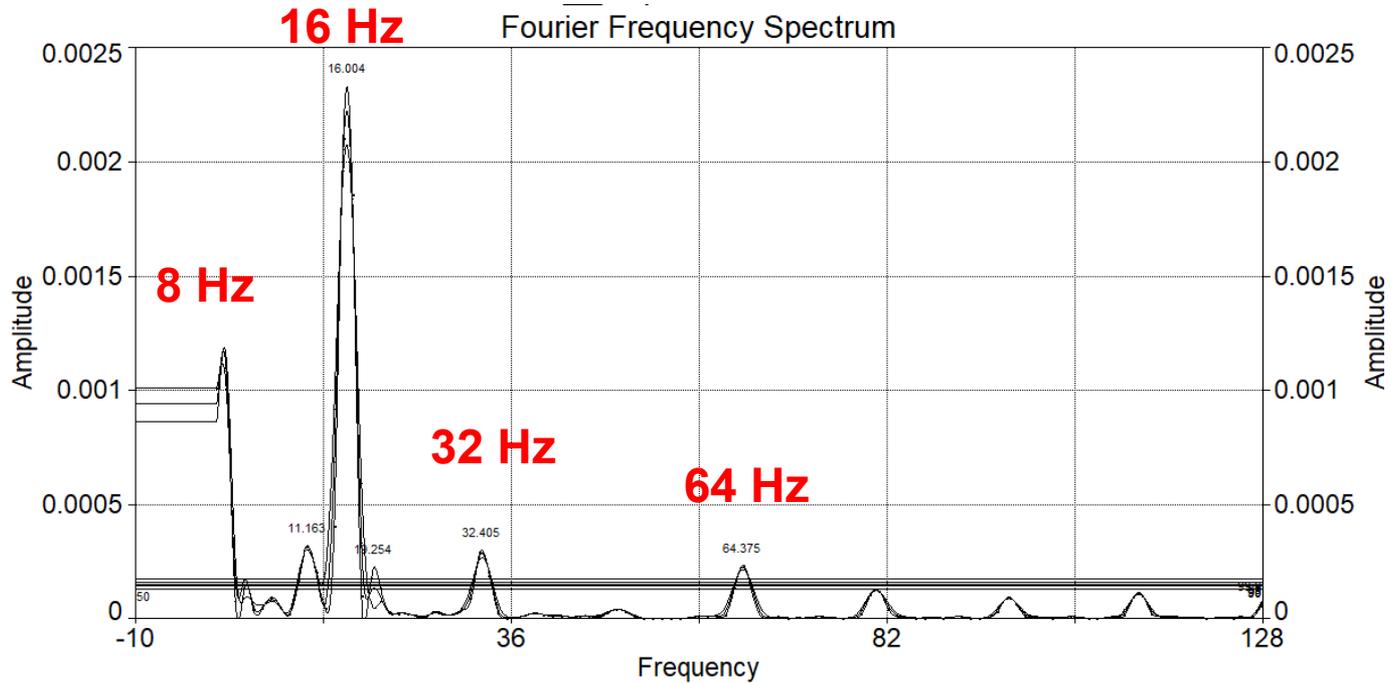
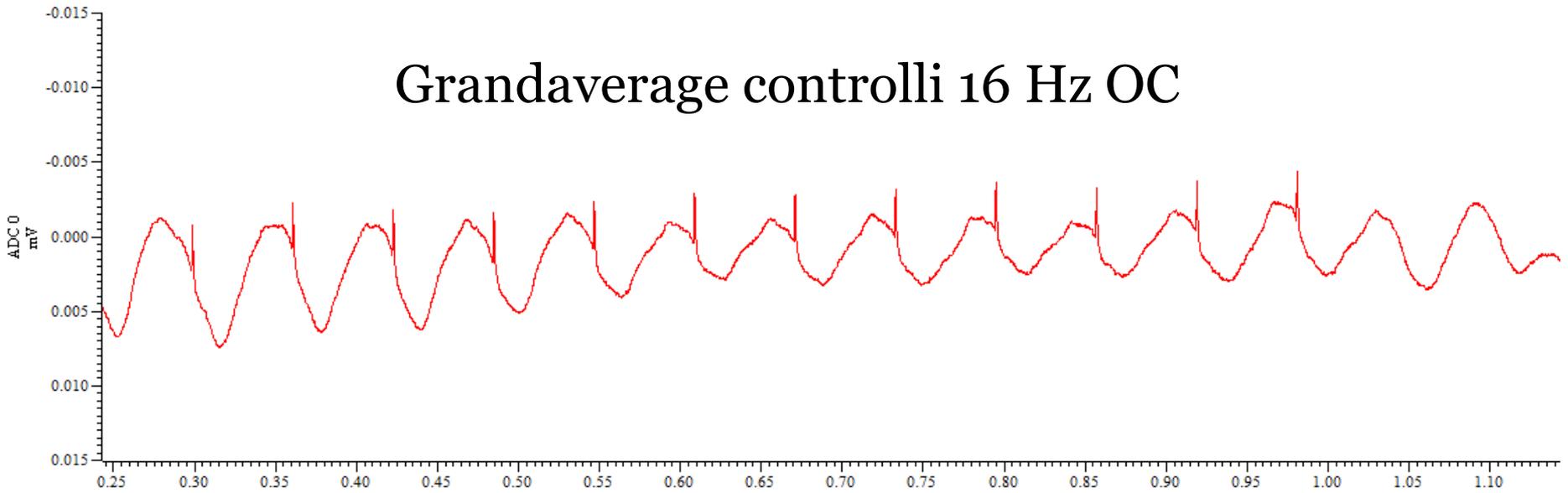
I PEV si mescolano in un'onda quasi sinusoidale



# PEV transient



# Grandaverage controlli 16 Hz OC



S

# Sommario

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ISCEV STANDARDS

# ISCEV standard for clinical visual evoked potentials: (2016 update)

**J. Vernon Odom · Michael Bach · Mitchell Brigell · Graham E. Holder ·  
Daphne L. McCulloch · Atsushi Mizota · Alma Patrizia Tormene ·  
International Society for Clinical Electrophysiology of Vision**

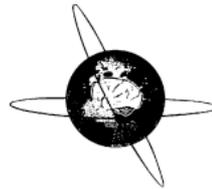
Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

Clinical Neurophysiology

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/clinph](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/clinph)



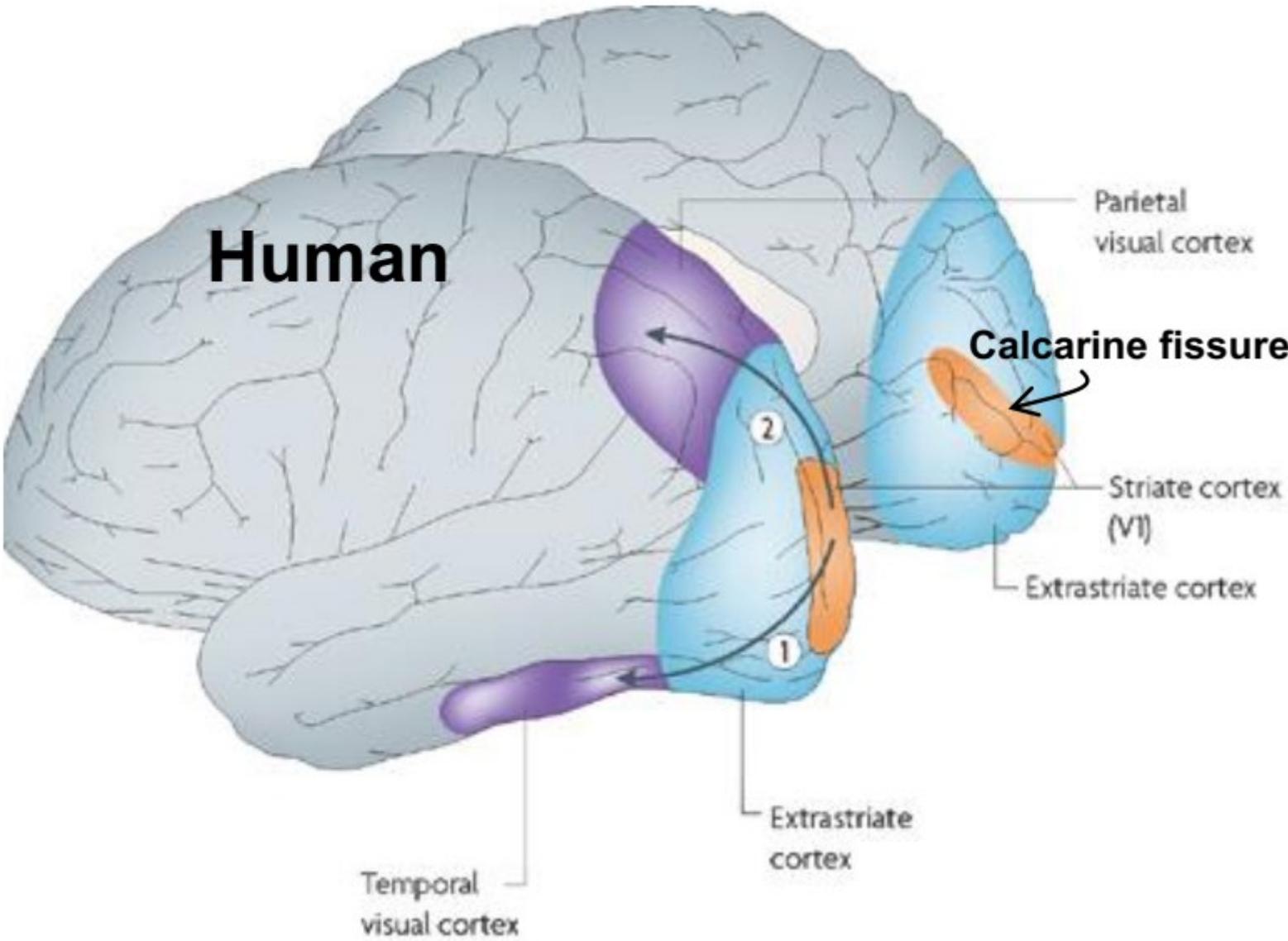
ELSEVIER



International Federation of Clinical Neurophysiology: Recommendations  
for visual system testing

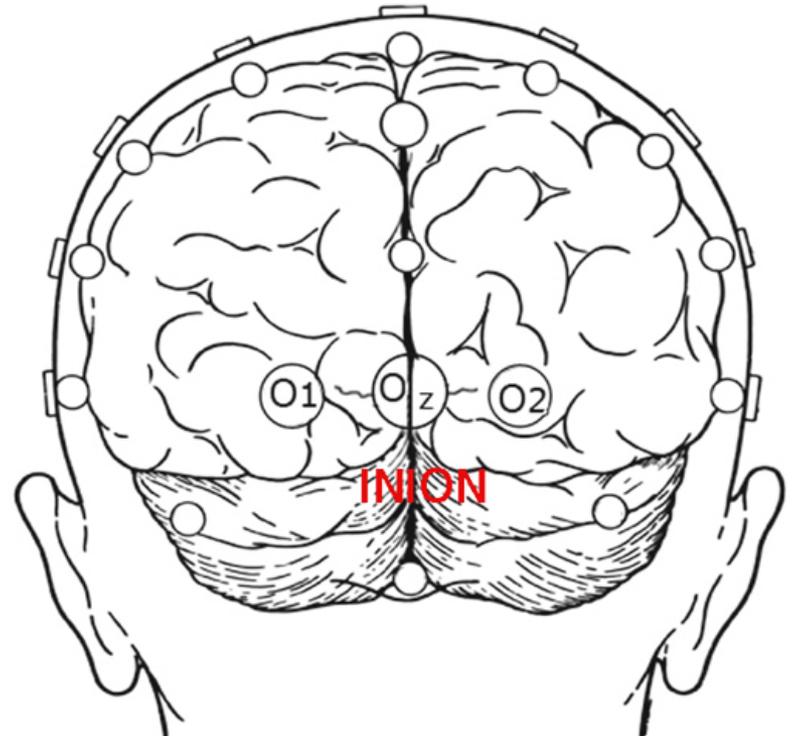
Graham E. Holder<sup>a,\*</sup>, Gastone G. Celesia<sup>b</sup>, Yozo Miyake<sup>c</sup>, Shozo Tobimatsu<sup>d</sup>, Richard G. Weleber<sup>e</sup>,  
for the International Federation of Clinical Neurophysiology

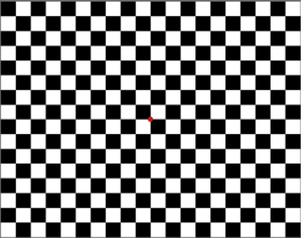
# Human



# PE visivi

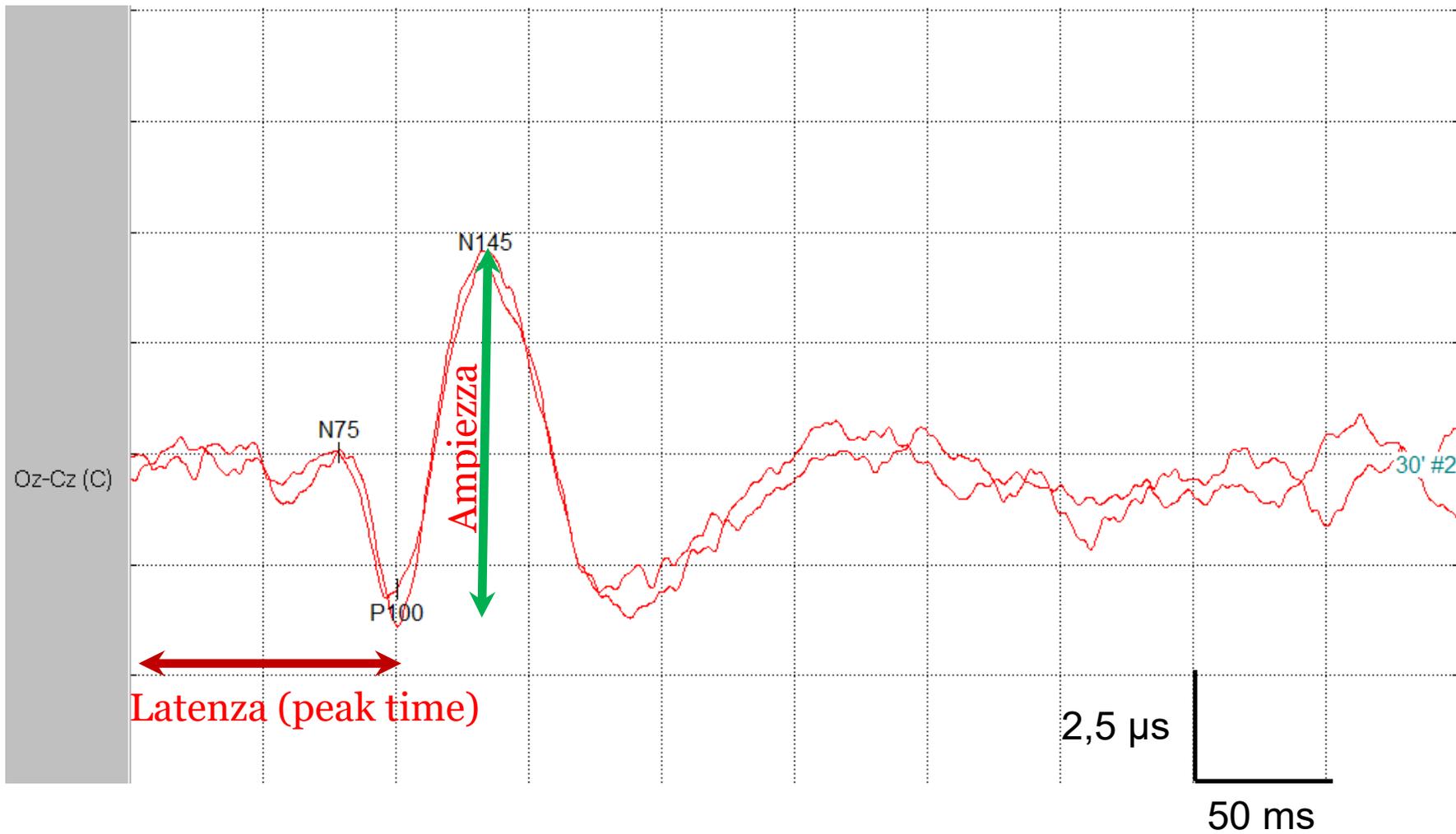
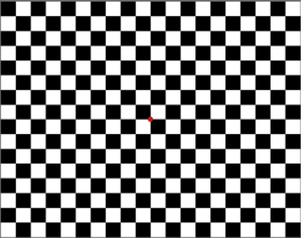
- **Elettrodo attivo:** in sede occipitale (Oz)
- **Referenza:** Fz o Cz
- **Terra:** fronte, vertice, mastoide, A1 e/o A2
- **Sistema 10/20**

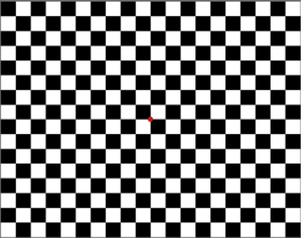




# PE visivi

- Frequenza campionamento: **1000 Hz**
- Filtri: **1-100 Hz** . Notch **NO**
- Stim. 1 Hz , binoculare o monoculare
- 2 serie da 100 tracce (almeno 50)
- Tempo di analisi: minimo 250 ms post stimolo (solitamente tot. 500 ms)



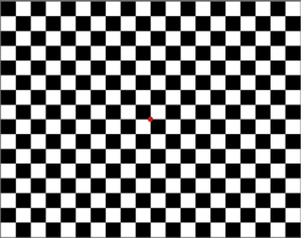


# Latenza

- Latenza: tempo dall'artefatto da stimolo alla massima deflessione, positiva o negativa (*peak time*)
- In molti altri casi, per latenza si intende il tempo dallo stimolo all'inizio della risposta (*onset time*)

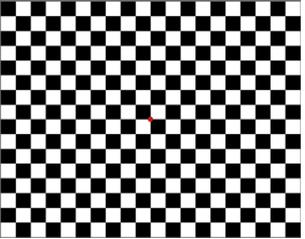
# Ampiezza

N75-P100



# P100

- Picco prominente, minore variazione intersoggetto, intrasoggetto, interoculare, e su misure ripetute.
- **Influenzata** da: tipo di stimolo, dimensione del pattern e del campo visivo, contrasto, luminanza, filtraggio, età, scarsa fissazione, difetti di rifrazione, modificazioni pupillari estreme



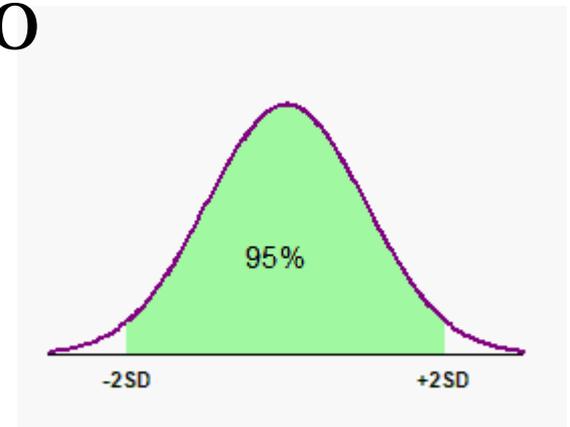
# Ripetibilità

- Valori normativi per singolo laboratorio

- Con occhiali



- Cosa è patologico? Rallentamento  $> 2$  deviazioni standard della P100

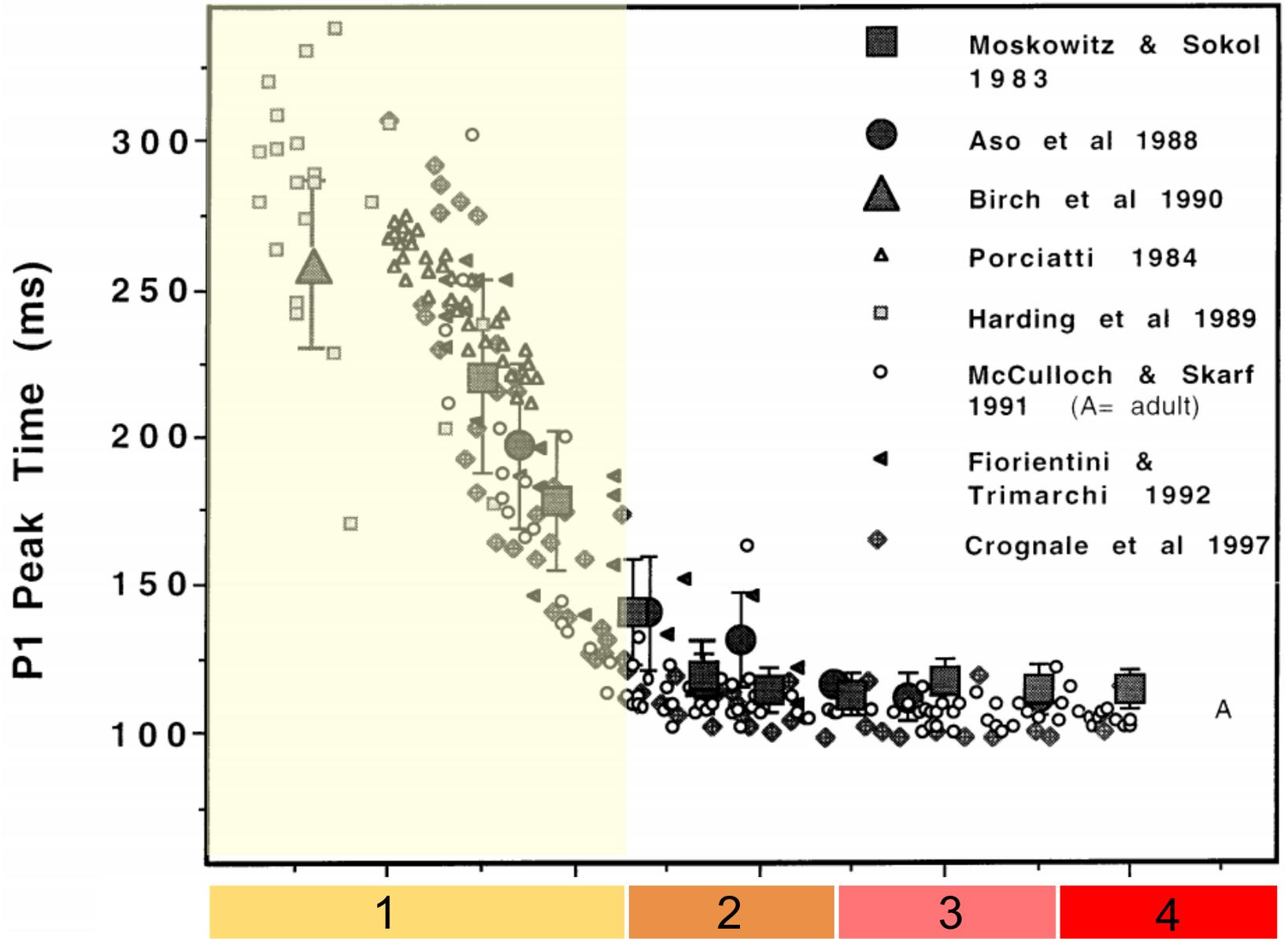


# Maturazione dei PEV

< 3 anni: difficoltà a mantenere la fissazione  
= PEV da flash

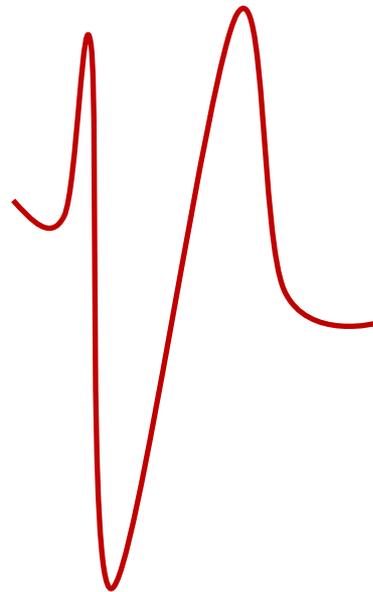
> 5 anni: sviluppo retinico-densità cellulare  
corticale e mielinizzazione, acuità visiva  
simili all'adulto

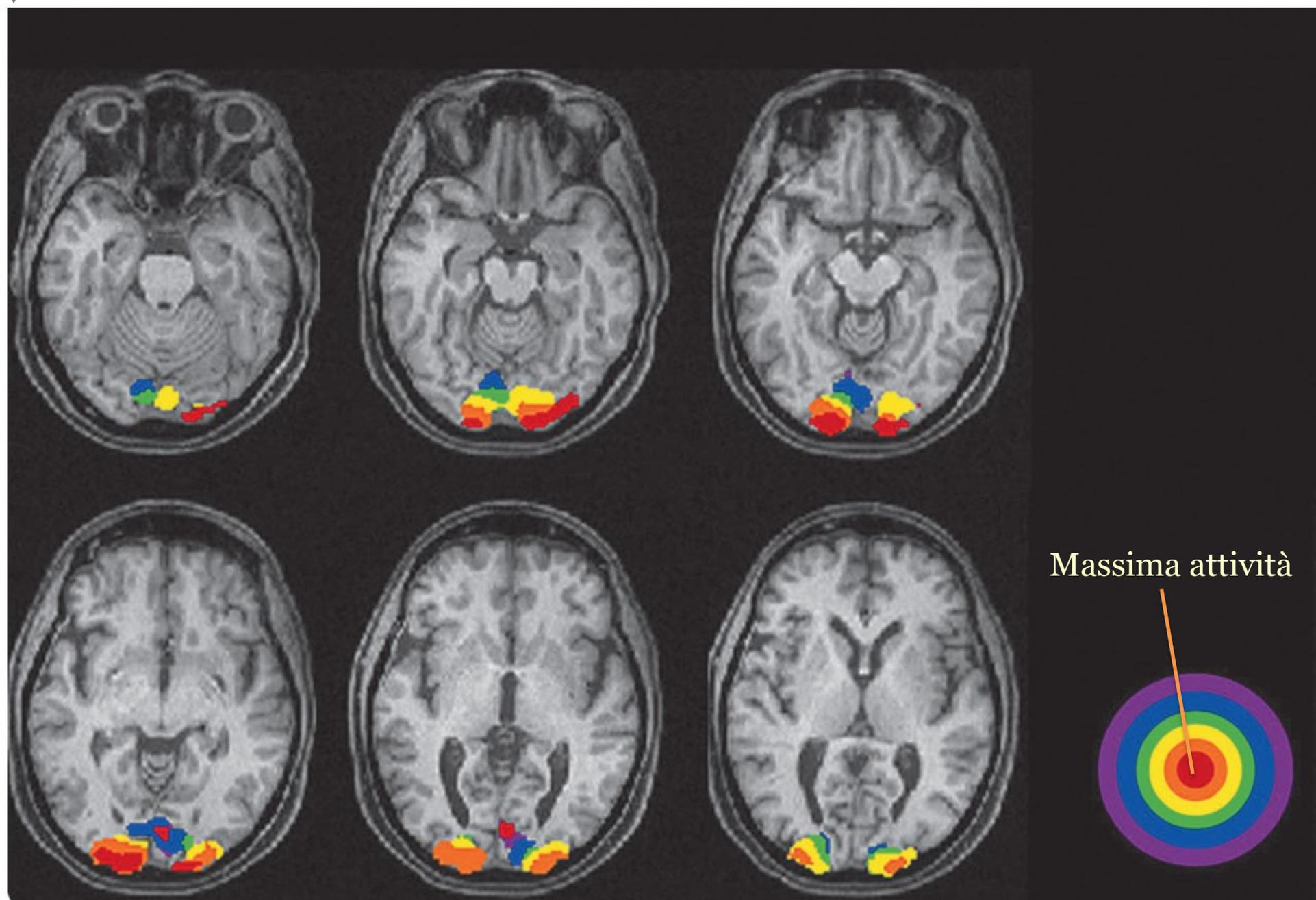
Molte variazioni nei primi anni di vita, con  
cambiamenti latenza, forma e complessità.



**Età (anni)**

**Perché il PEV  
ha questa forma?**

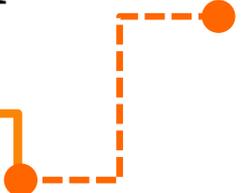




Massima attività

# PEV = segnale complesso

- Oz: più vicino alla corteccia visiva primaria



intorno alla scissura calcarina, non sulla superficie del lobo occipitale. Variabilità anatomica.

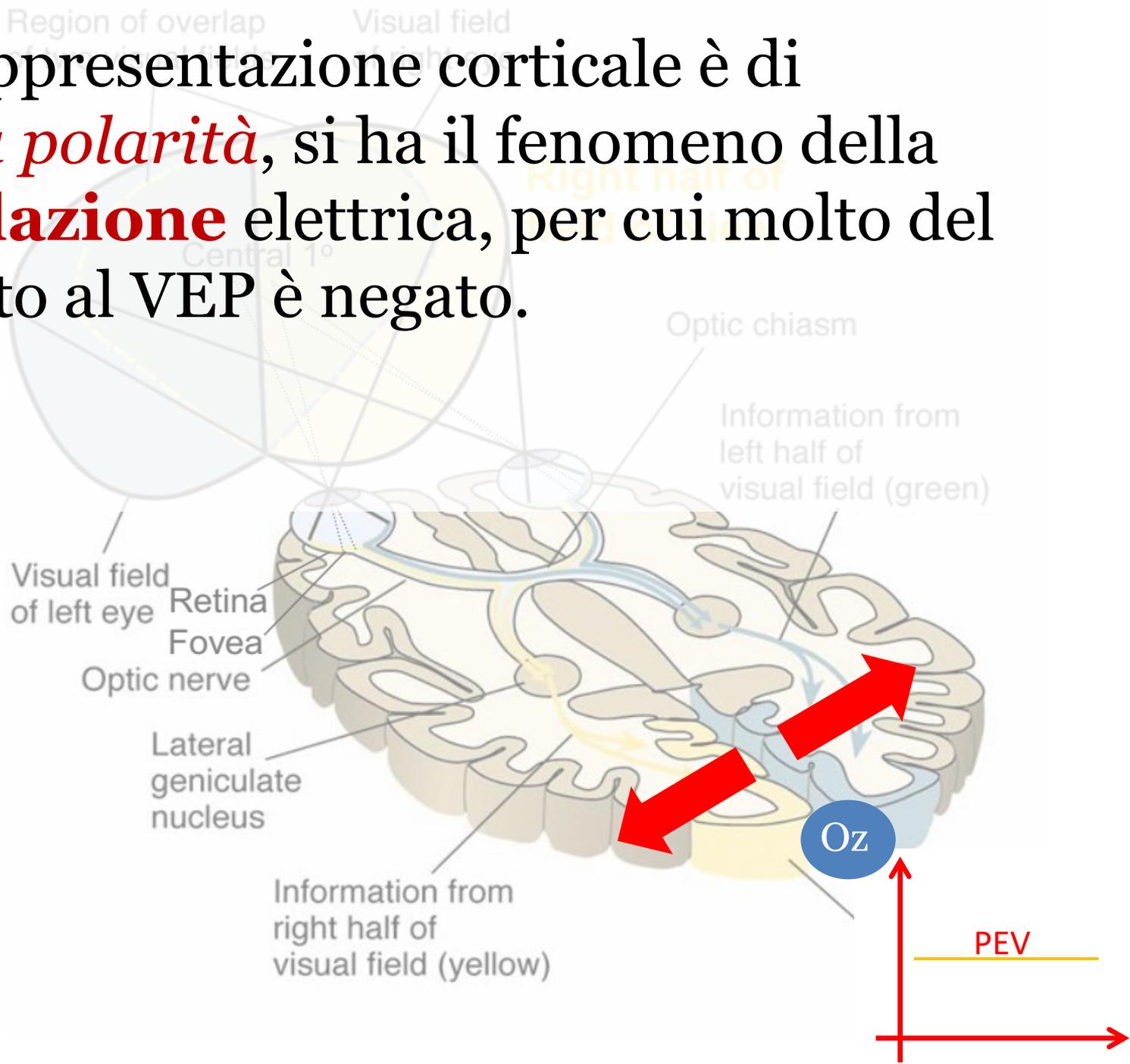
- Lateralizzazione difficile



# PEV = segnale complesso

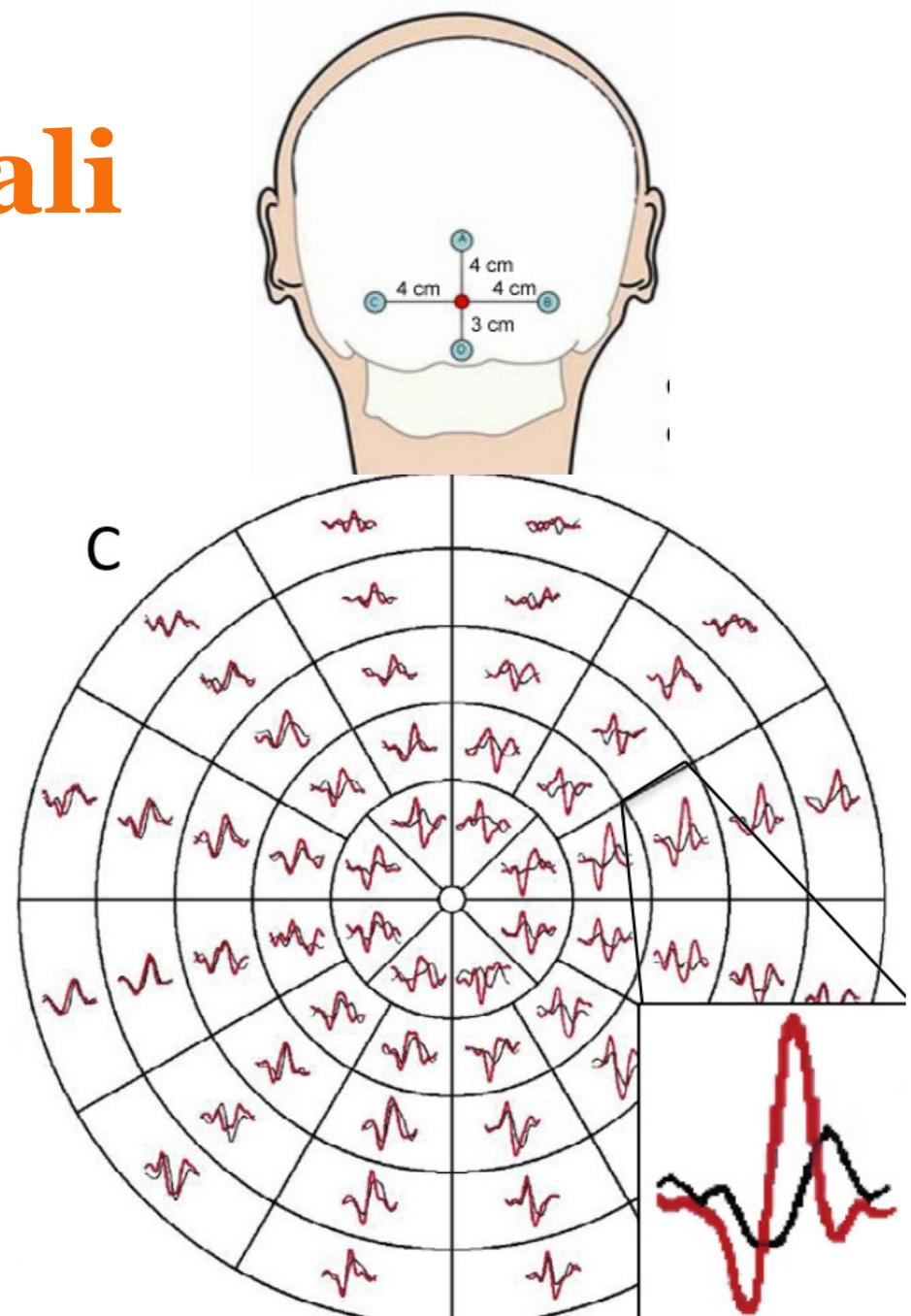
- La stimolazione visiva crea una serie di dipoli, che si combinano.
- Il PEV è un'onda = **sommazione di tutti i dipoli**
- Effetti di cancellazione di fase dei potenziali

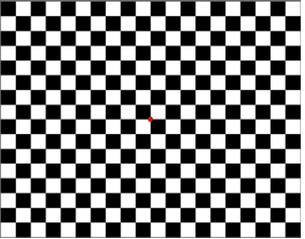
- Se la rappresentazione corticale è di *opposta polarità*, si ha il fenomeno della **cancellazione** elettrica, per cui molto del contributo al VEP è negato.



# PEV multifocali

- I dipoli elettrici generati dalla corteccia non vanno incontro a cancellazione di fase
- Aumenta la sensibilità per deficit minori (con PEV convenzionale normale )



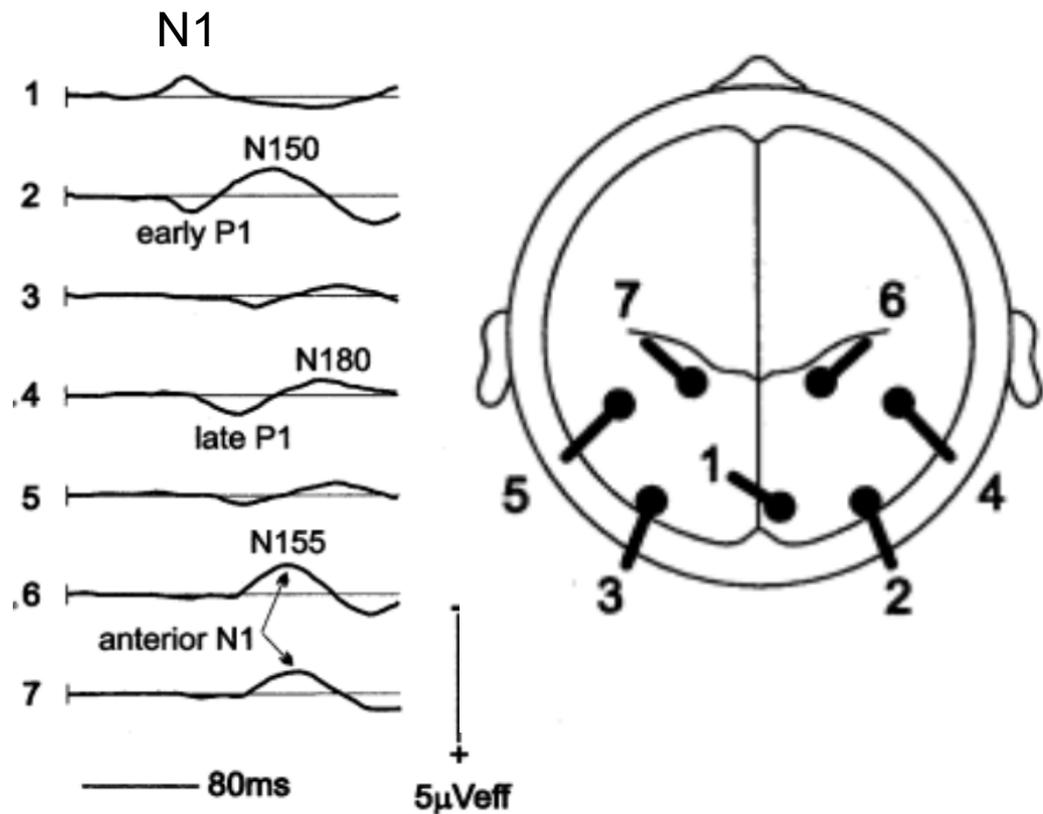


# Generatori

V1 è la sorgente delle **componenti precoci** (N1, N75) prima della P1 (P100)

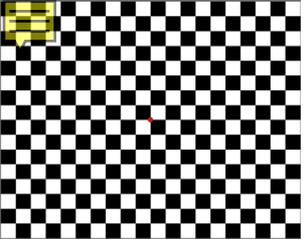
La **precoce fase della P100**, generata dalla corteccia extrastriata dorsale

**N2** generata da molte aree, anche il lobo parietale (associative)



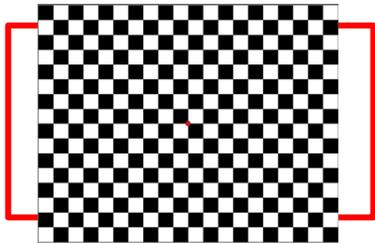
# Sommario

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4. Spunti di ricerca

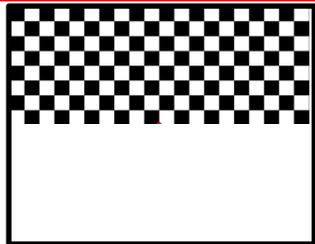


# Applicazioni cliniche

PR-PEV: affidabile e sensibile per valutazione:



1. **porzione prechiasmatica**  
*(retina e nervo ottico)*



2. **chiasma ottico**
3. **porzione retrochiasmatica**  
*(tratto ottico, corpo genicolato laterale, radiazioni ottiche, corteccia visiva)*

# Tipi di alterazioni

- Assenza di risposte
- Aumento di latenza della P100
  - Asimmetria interoculare
  - Anomalie d'ampiezza

La latenza del PEV dipende in parte dalla velocità di conduzione delle fibre del nervo ottico...

THE LANCET, MAY 6, 1972

# **DELAYED VISUAL EVOKED RESPONSE IN OPTIC NEURITIS**

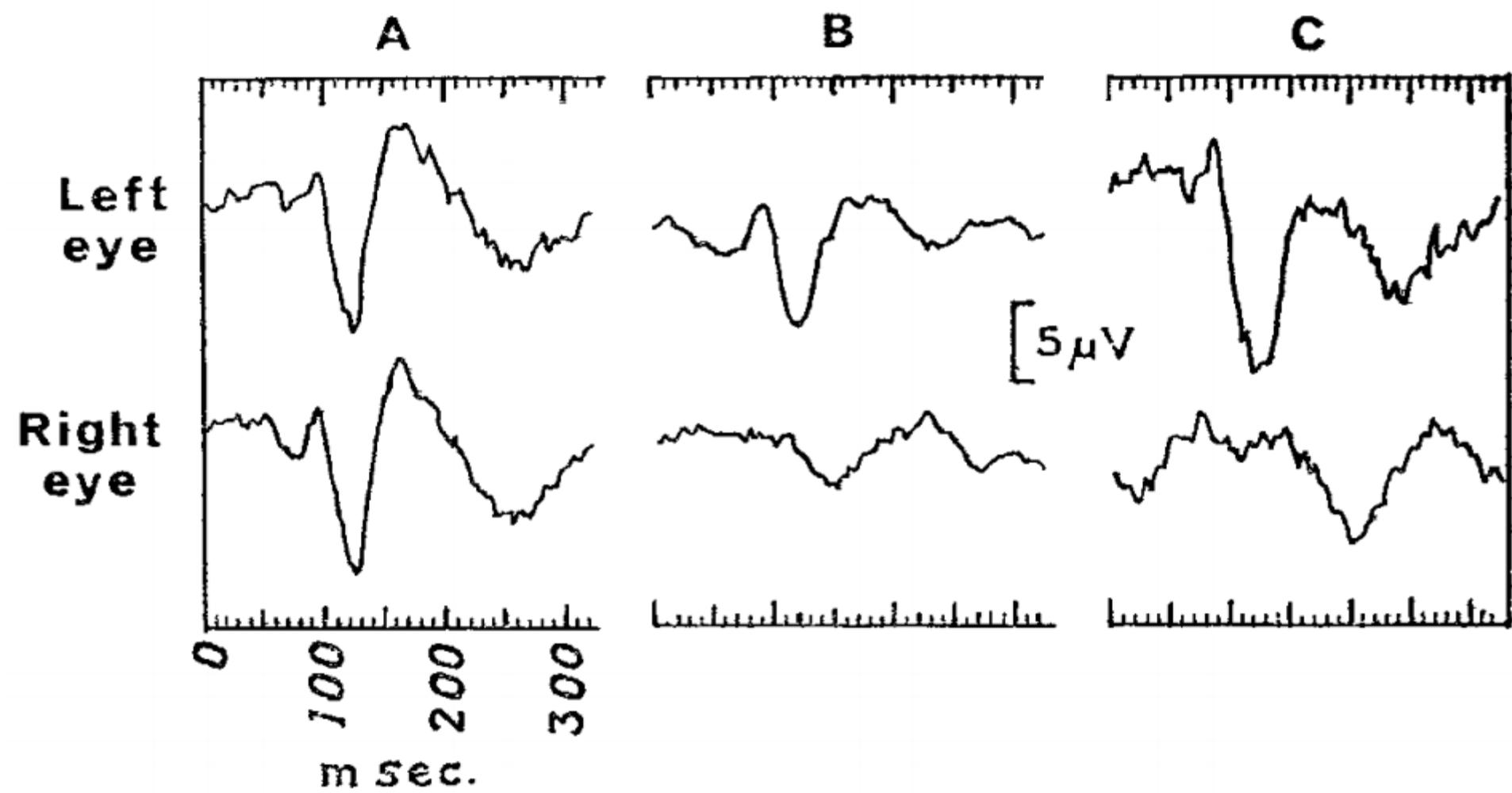
A. M. HALLIDAY

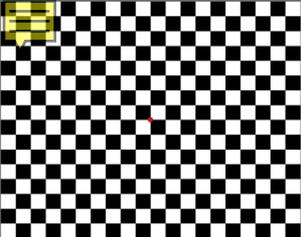
W. I. McDONALD

JOAN MUSHIN

*Institute of Neurology, Queen Square, London WC1N 3BG*

**Pattern PEV e flash PEV**



**R****P100****N75****N145**  
**P100**25 ms 1  $\mu$ V Ear-Oz**L****N75****N145**25 ms 1  $\mu$ V Ear-Oz**RIGHT eye VEP**

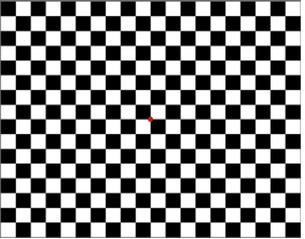
Text	Lat N75 ms	Lat P100 ms	Lat N145 ms	PP Amp 75-100 $\mu$ V
Oz	1.1 N75 78.0	1.1 P100 <b>105</b>	1.1 N145 144	1.1 N75 P100 9.48

**LEFT eye VEP**

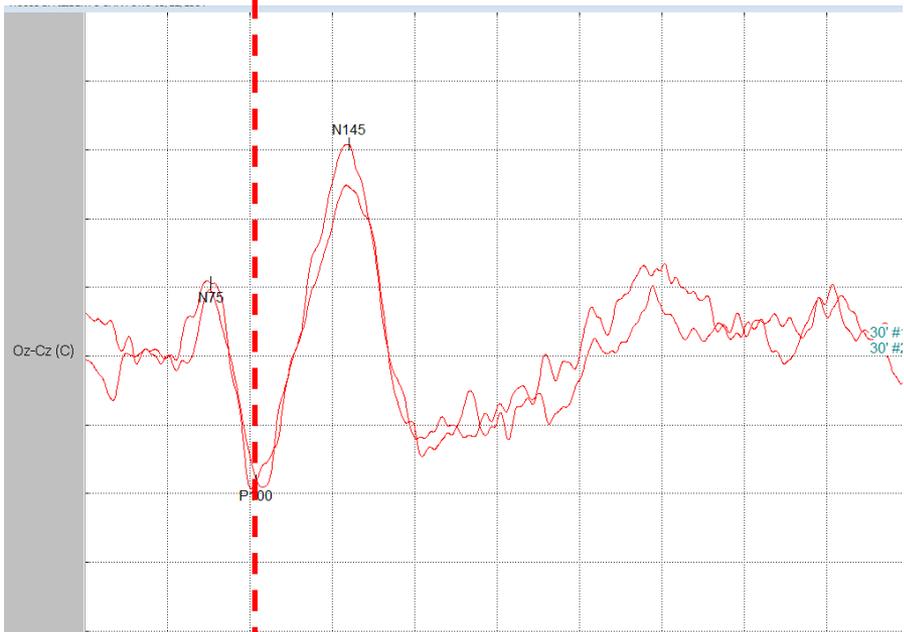
Text	Lat N75 ms	Lat P100 ms	Lat N145 ms	PP Amp 75-100 $\mu$ V
Oz	2.1 N75 106	2.1 P100 <b>145</b>	2.1 N145 178	2.1 N75 P100 9.47

**Interocular comparison**

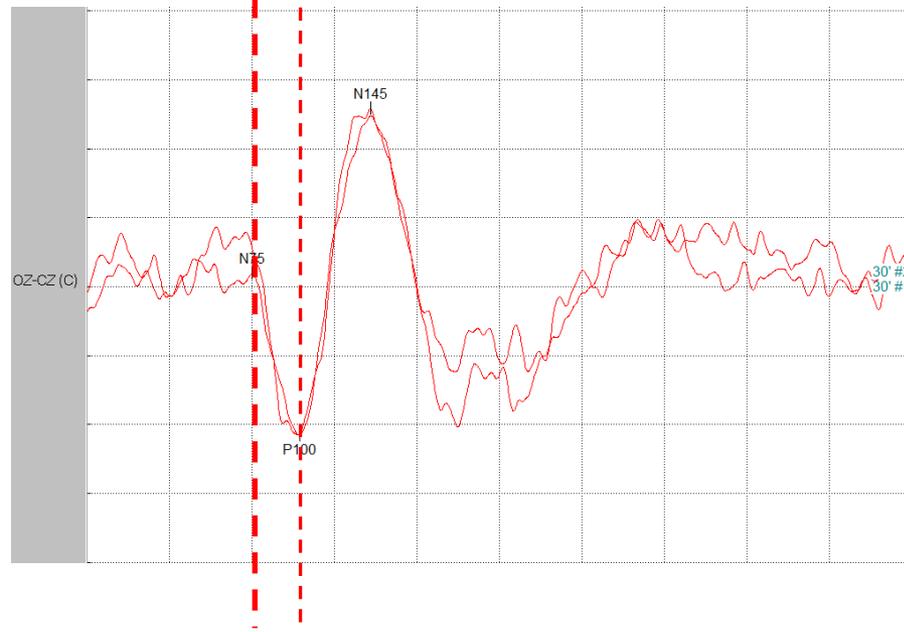
Text	LatDiff LT-RT	PP amp ratio LT-RT
	<b>40.8 ms</b>	<b>99.8%</b>



**OD**



**OS**



2,5 us  
50 ms

# Sclerosi multipla

**CRITERI POSER  
1983 CRITERI**

...

**CRITERI MC  
DONALD 2017**

PEV usati per  
supportare diagnosi SM  
Evidenza para-clinica  
di demielinizzazione

...

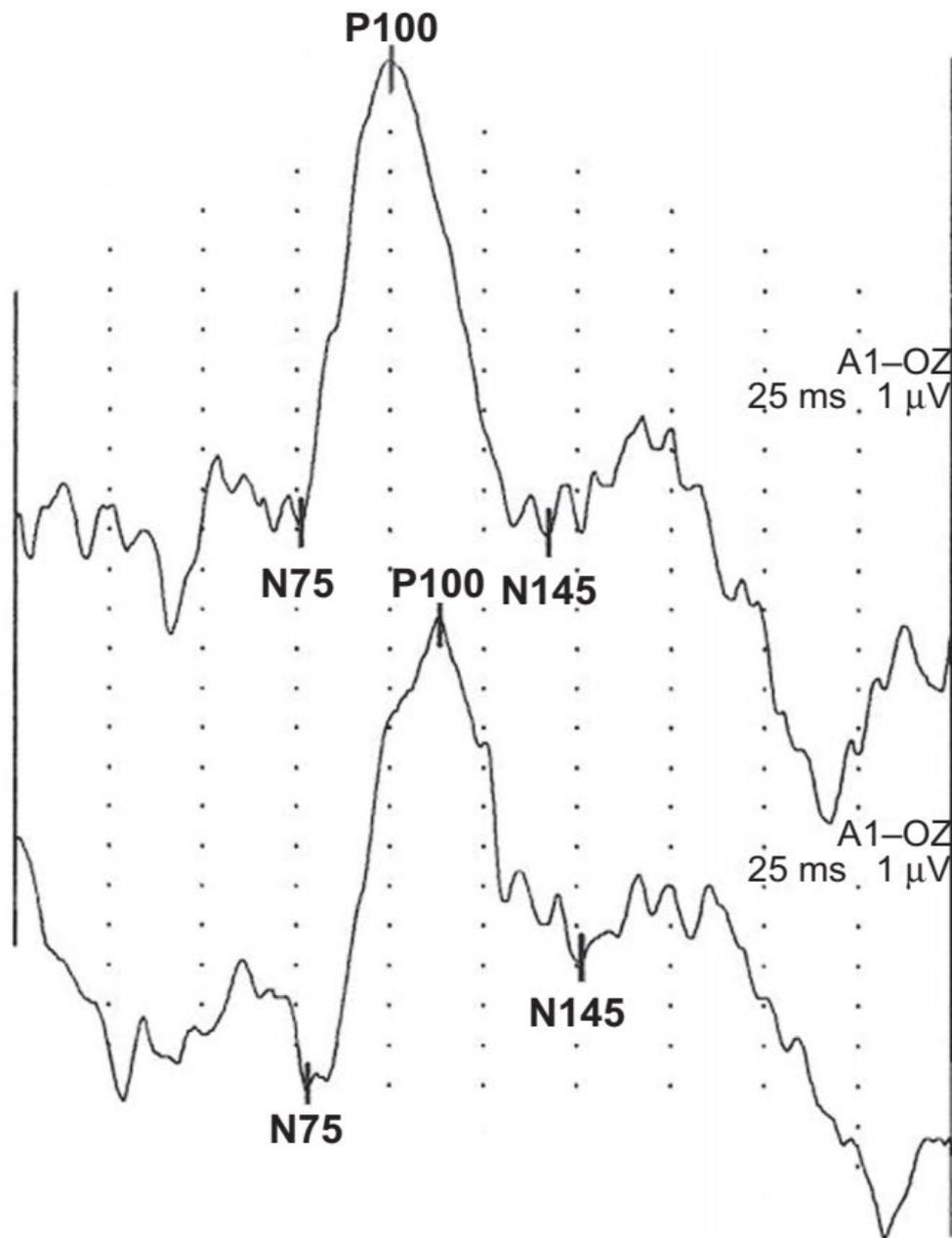
Sono stati sostituiti  
dalla RM, più sensibile  
e...specificità

# Sclerosi multipla

- Diagnosi della neurite ottica
  - Follow-up
- Monitoraggio della terapia

# Altre indicazioni

- Traumi
- Quantificare e seguire la progressione di Tumori (neurofibromatosi) e malattie del nervo ottico (neuropatie a varie eziologie)
- Idrocefalo
- Demenze?



### Right eye measurements

Text	Lat N75 ms	Lat P100 ms	Lat N145 ms	PP amp 75-100 μV
M0	1.1:N75 75.8	1.1:P100 100	1.1:N145 142	1.1:N75 P100 11.8

### Left eye measurements

Text	Lat N75 ms	Lat P100 ms	Lat N145 ms	PP amp 75-100 μV
MO	2.1:N75 78.0	2.1:P100 113	2.1:N145 151	2.1:N75 P100 120

### Interocular measurements

Text	LatDiff RT-LT ms	PP amp ratio RT-LT %
MO	1.1:P100 2.1:P100 128	1.1:N75 P100 2.1:N75 P100 102

**Fig. 34.13.** Initial pattern reversal VEPs recorded from an 8-year-old with NF1 showing slowing of left nerve, but good amplitudes.

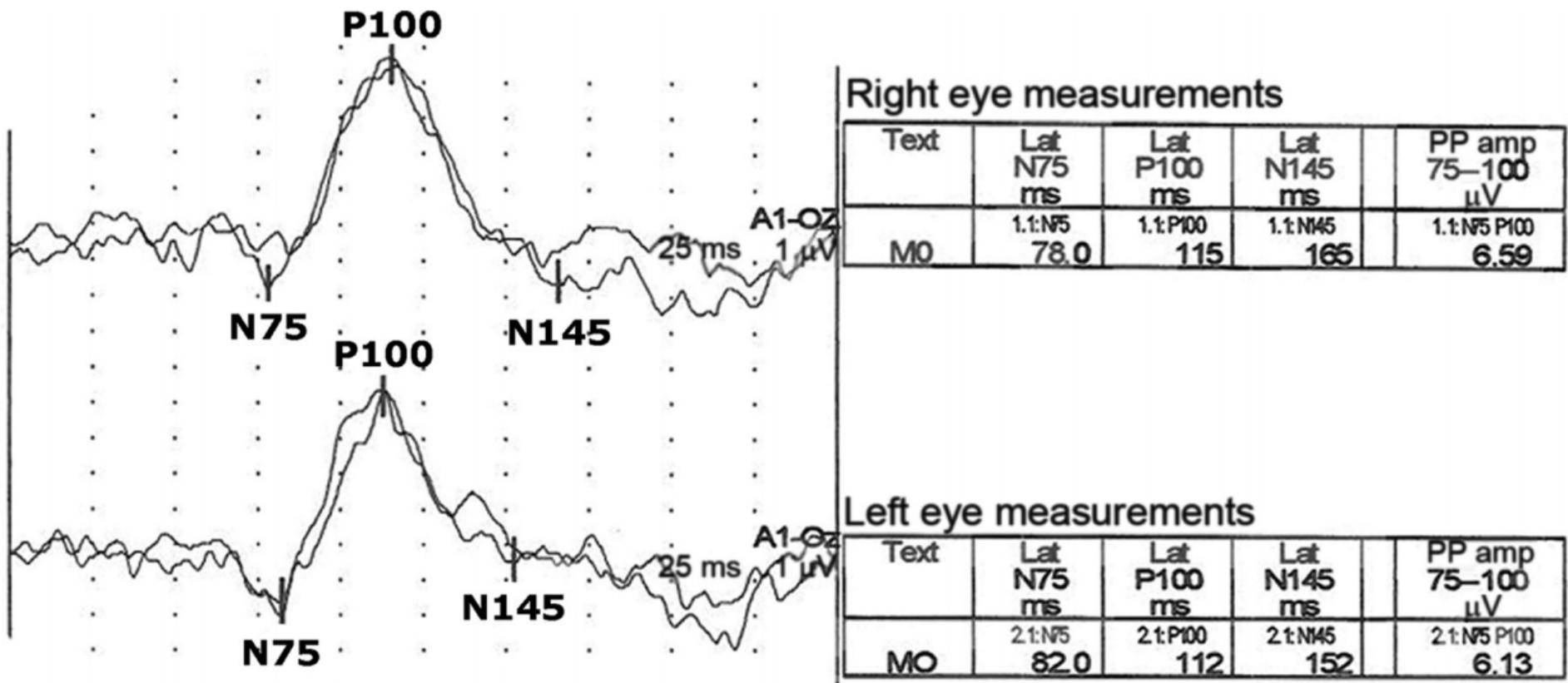
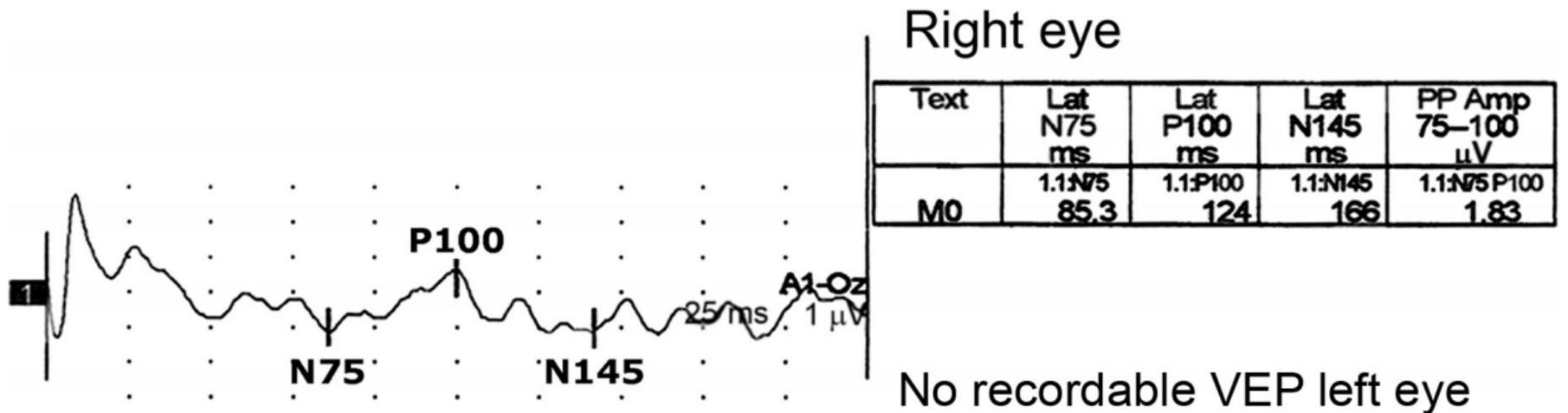


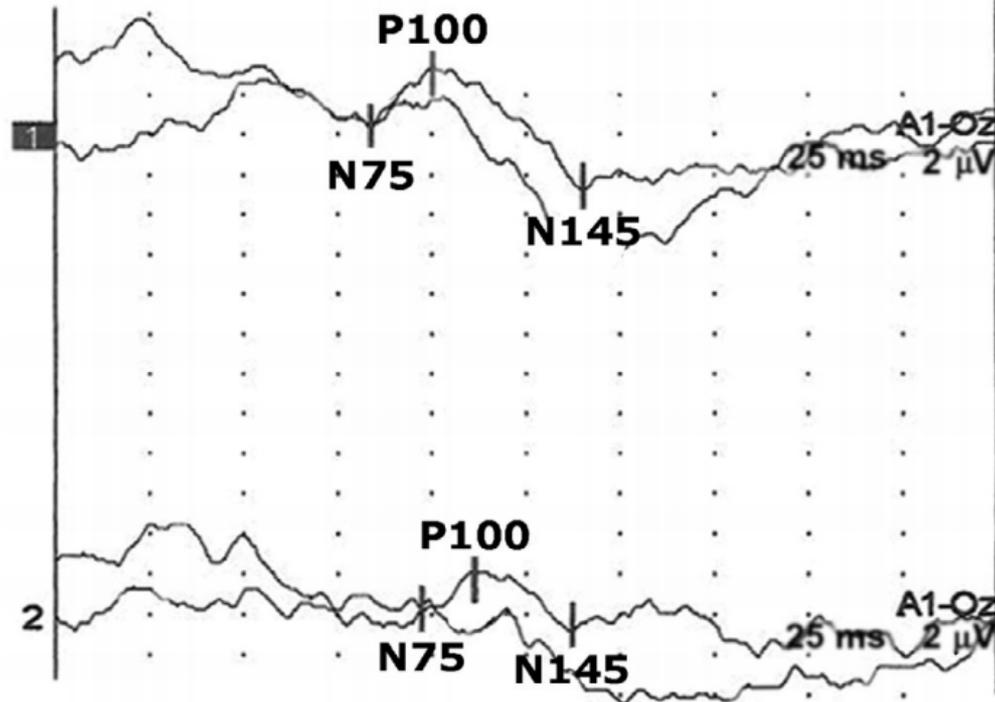
Fig. 34.19. Pattern reversal VEPs recorded from an adult with meningeal tuberculosis, showing prolonged P100s.

# Initial VEP following occipital trauma



**Fig. 34.9.** Flash VEPs recorded soon after occipital trauma in 2-year-old showing small amplitude VEP in the right eye and no recordable VEP in the left eye.

# One month posttrauma



## Right eye measurements

Text	Lat N75 ms	Lat P100 ms	Lat N145 ms	PP amp 75-100 μV
MO	1.1:N75 83.5	1.1:P100 100	1.1:N145 140	1.1:N75 P100 3.03

## Left eye measurements

Text	Lat N75 ms	Lat P100 ms	Lat N145 ms	PP amp 75-100 μV
MO	2.1:N75 97.0	2.1:P100 111	2.1:N145 137	2.1:N75 P100 1.72

**Fig. 34.10.** Flash VEPs recorded from same 2-year-old 1 month after occipital trauma, showing some recovery of optic pathway function.

# Three months after trauma

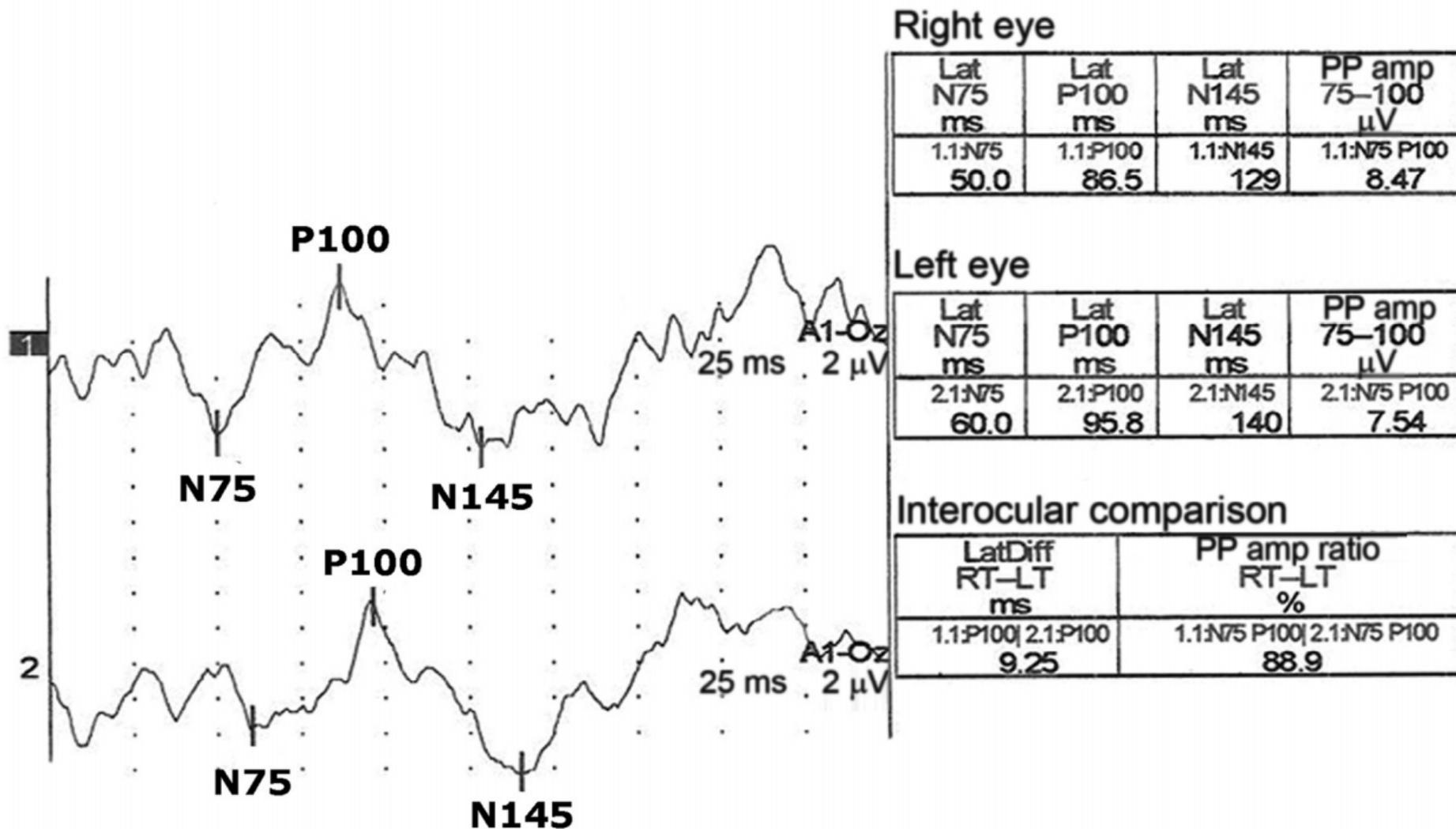


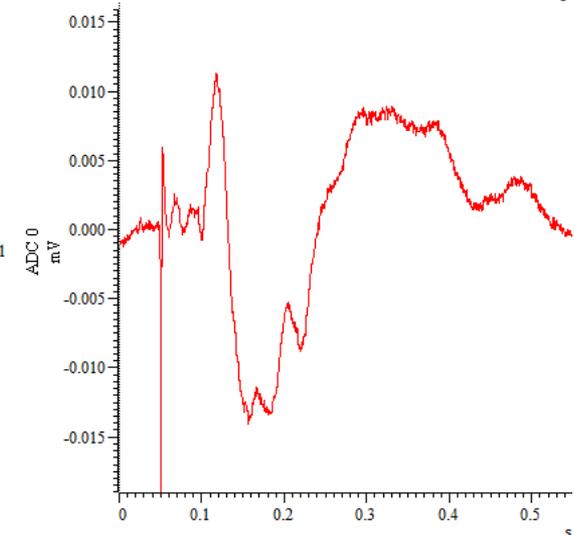
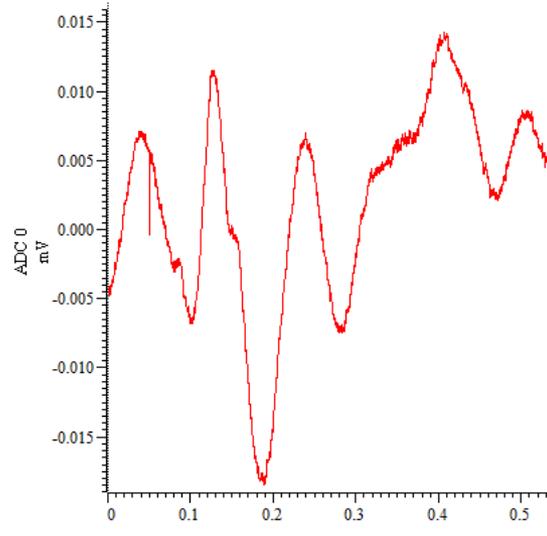
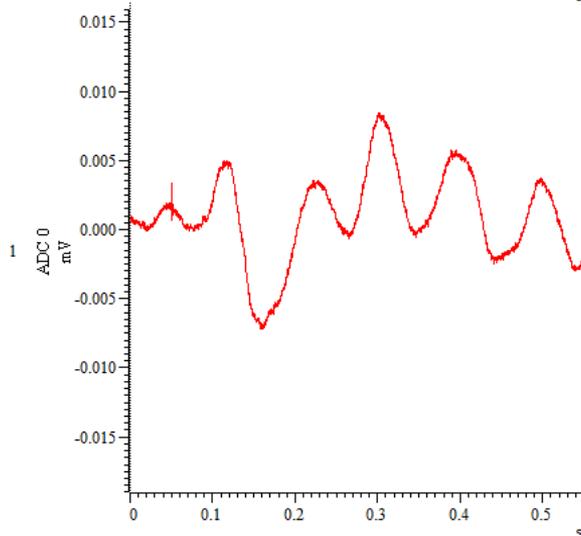
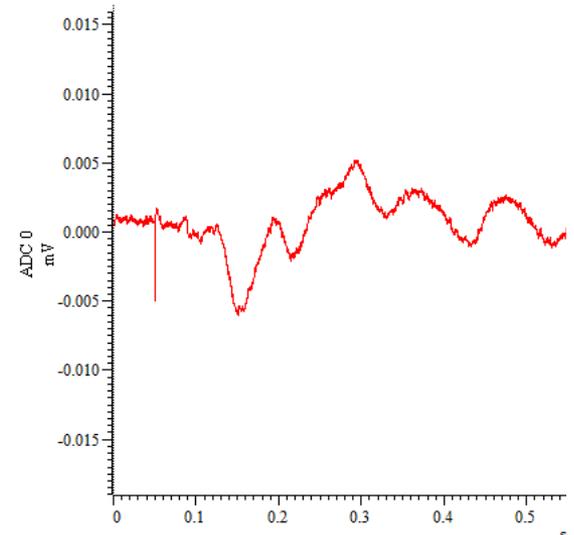
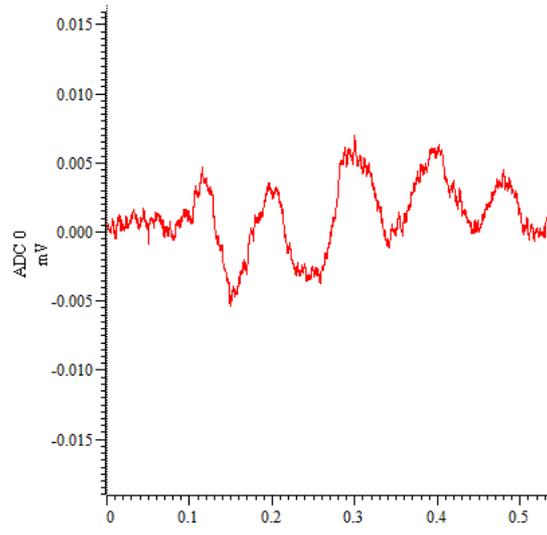
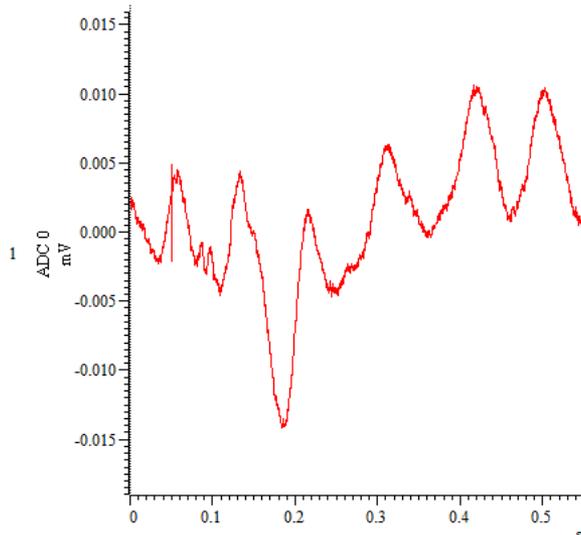
Fig. 34.11. Flash VEPs recorded from same 2-year-old 2 months after occipital trauma, showing further recovery.

# PEV da flash



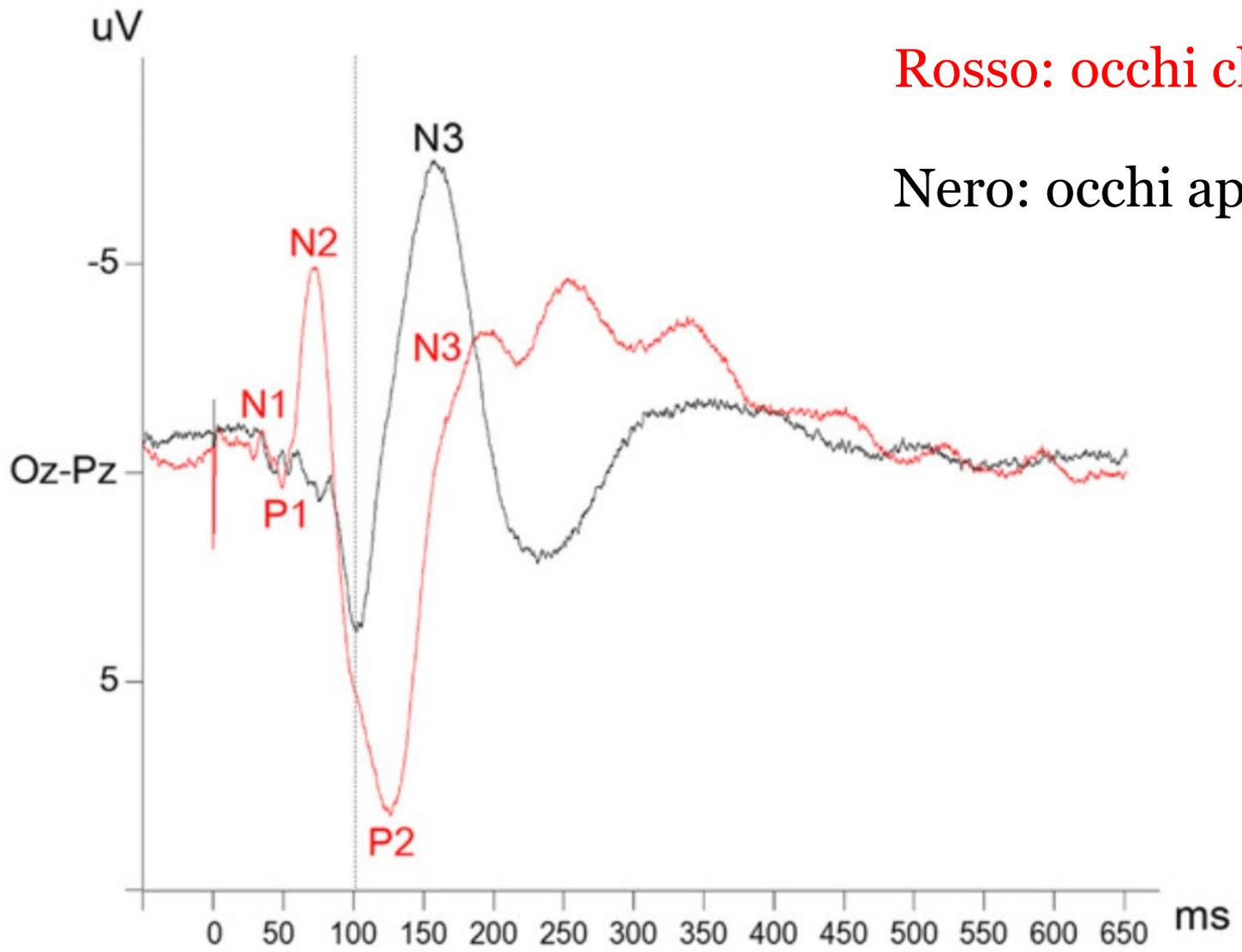
- Durata flash con lampada allo **xenon**: 20  $\mu$ s; 0.64 J
- Durata flash con **LED**: 1-5 ms. Energia minore

# Variabilità PEV da flash



# PEV da flash

- Molto variabili in *ampiezza* e *morfologia*
- Quando sono utili: scarsa collaborazione, inadeguata fissazione  
(bambini piccoli, pazienti con nistagmo, ipovisus e sopore, coma)
- I picchi sono positivi e negativi, sequenza di numeri



Rosso: occhi chiusi

Nero: occhi aperti

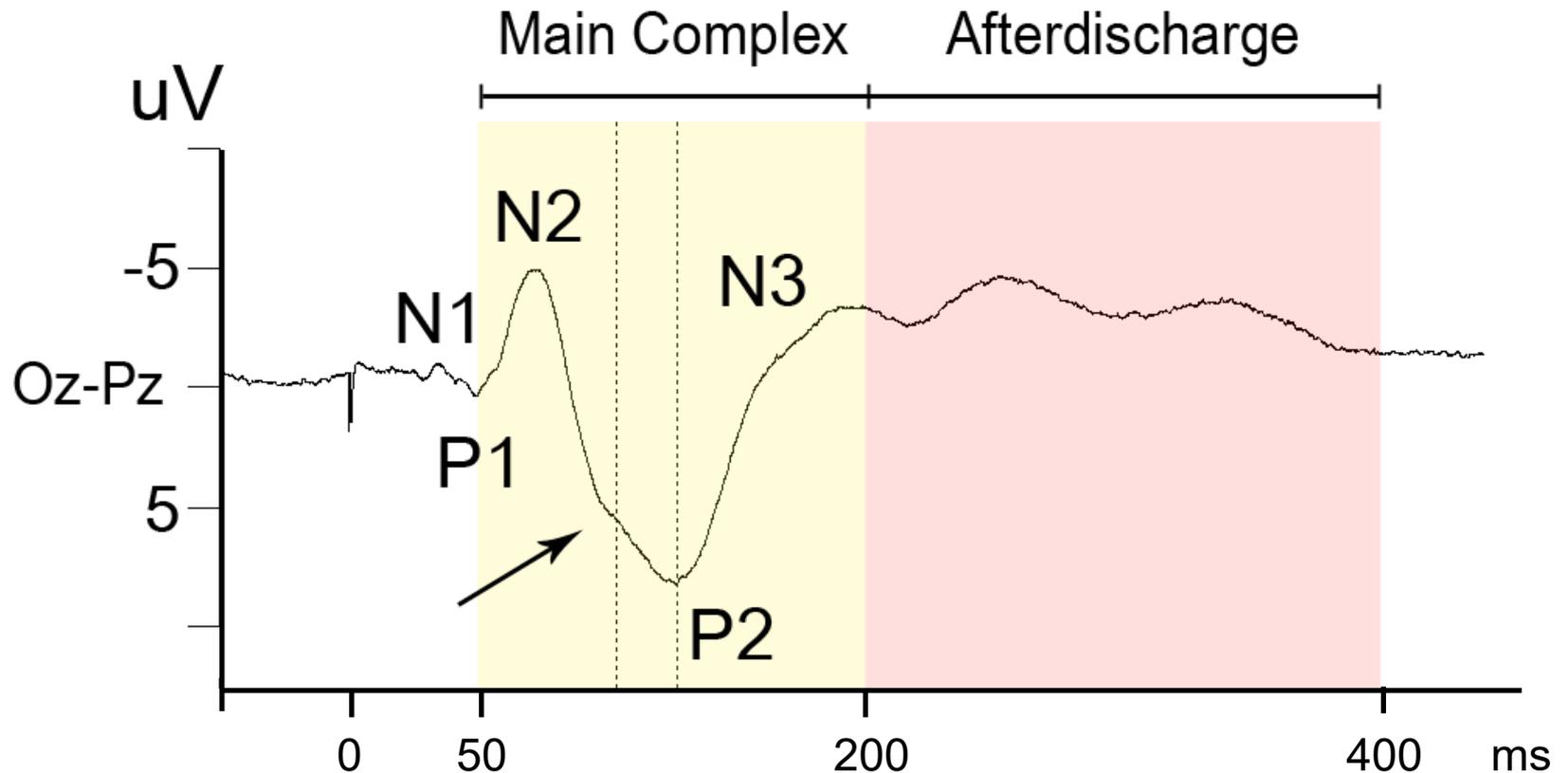
		Amplitude (uV)	Latency (ms)
Oz-Pz	EC	16.4 SD 6.4 <sup>a</sup>	124.5 SD 8.4 <sup>a</sup>
	EO	12.3 SD 4.4	103.1 SD 4.9



## Paired-pulse flash-visual evoked potentials: New methods revive an old test

Roberto Cantello\*, Gionata Strigaro, Paolo Prandi, Claudia Varrasi, Marco Mula, Francesco Monaco

*Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine, Section of Neurology, University of Piedmont East "A. Avogadro", Novara, Italy*

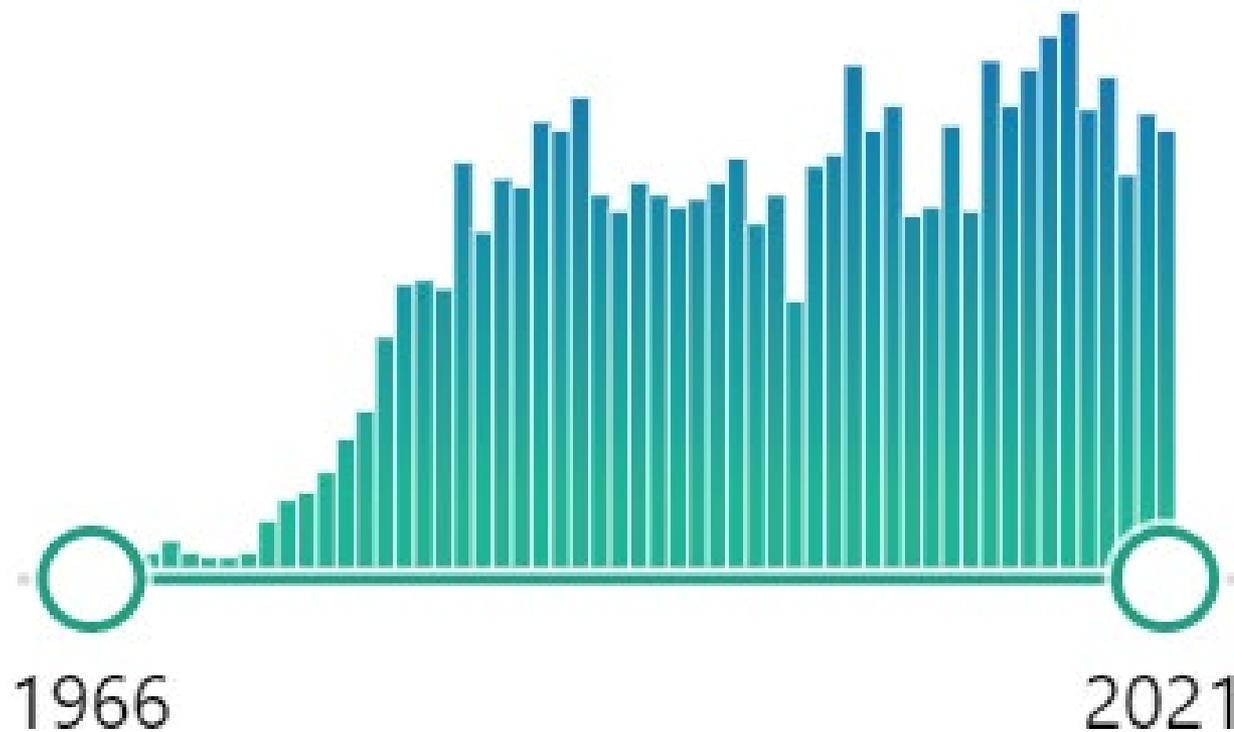


# Sommario

- 1. Dall'EEG ai PEV**
- 2. Come si fanno?**
- 3. A cosa servono?**
- 4. Spunti di ricerca**

# I PEV non sono antiquariato

RESULTS BY YEAR





Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

## Epilepsy Research

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/epilepsyres](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/epilepsyres)



# Flash-evoked high-frequency EEG oscillations in photosensitive epilepsies

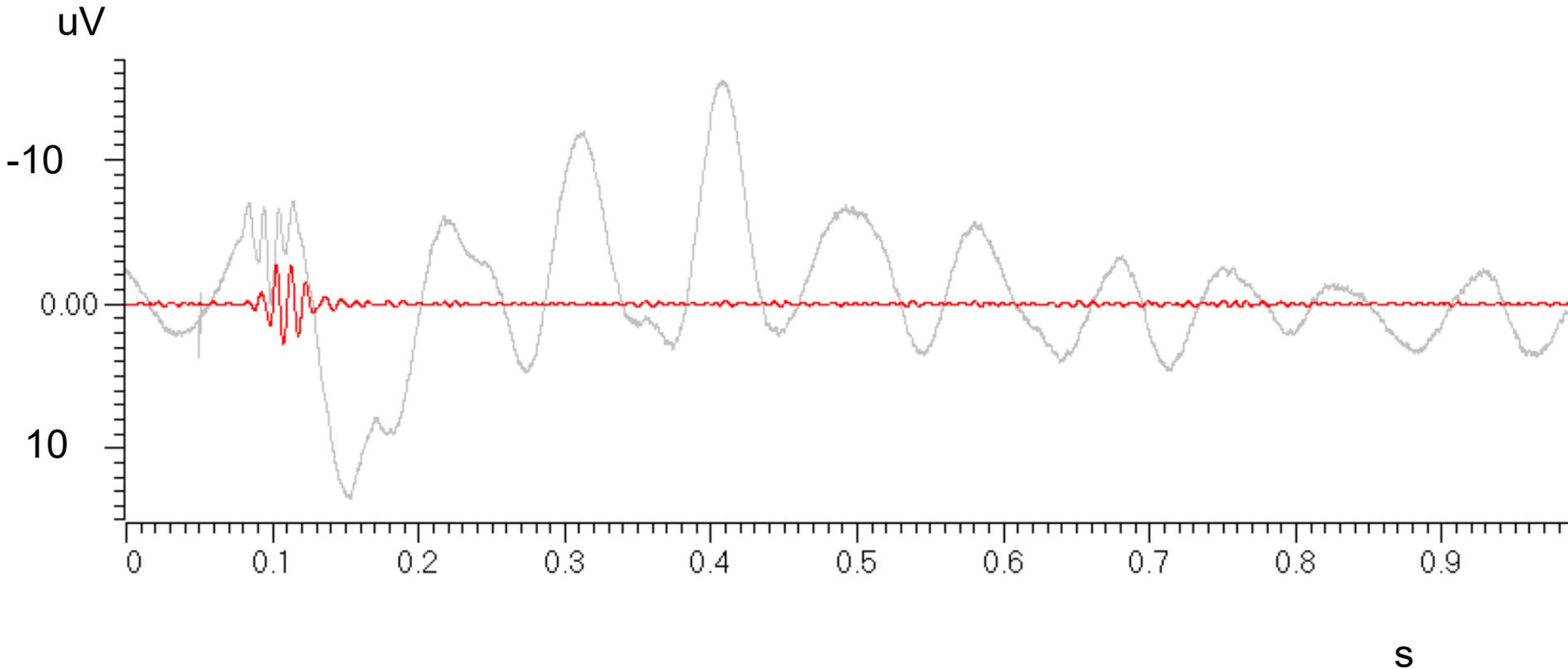
Gionata Strigaro <sup>\*</sup>, Benedetta Gori, Claudia Varrasi, Thomas Fleetwood, Giorgio Cantello, Roberto Cantello

*Neurology Unit, Department of Translational Medicine, University of Piemonte Orientale, Azienda Ospedaliero-Universitaria "Maggiore della Carità", Novara, Italy*

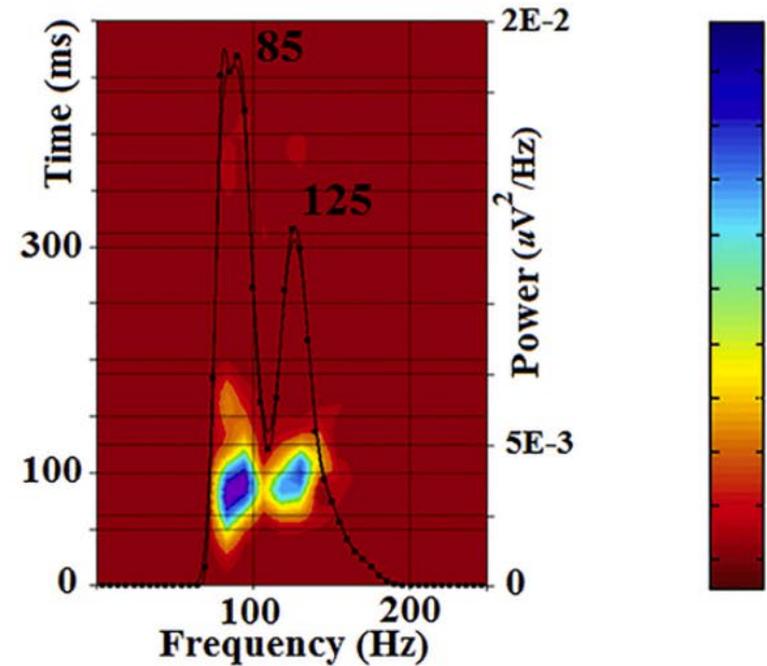
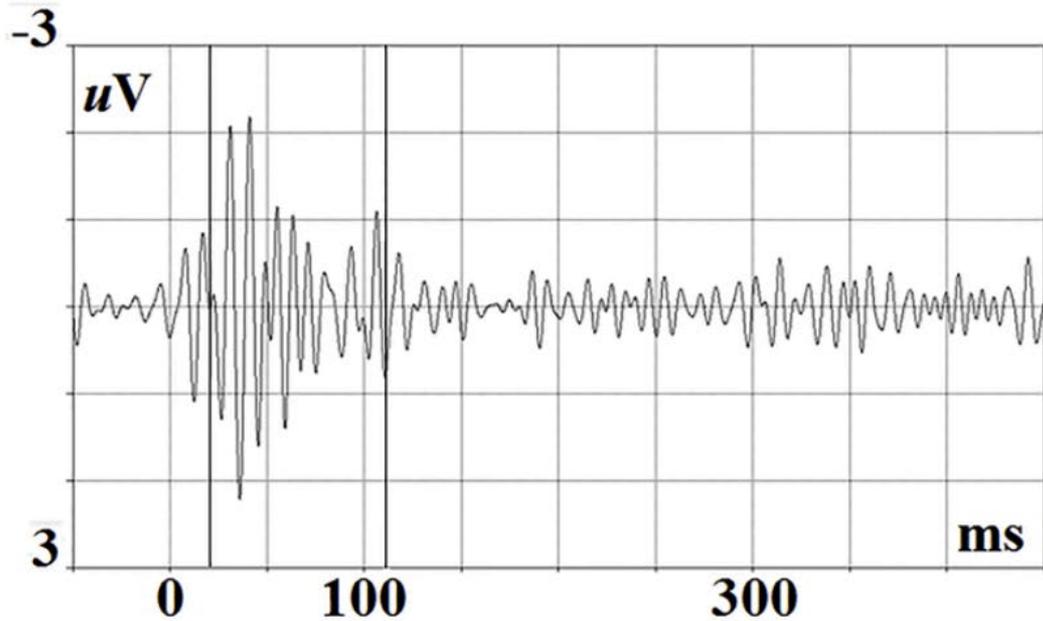


# Oscillazioni ad alta frequenza (OAF)

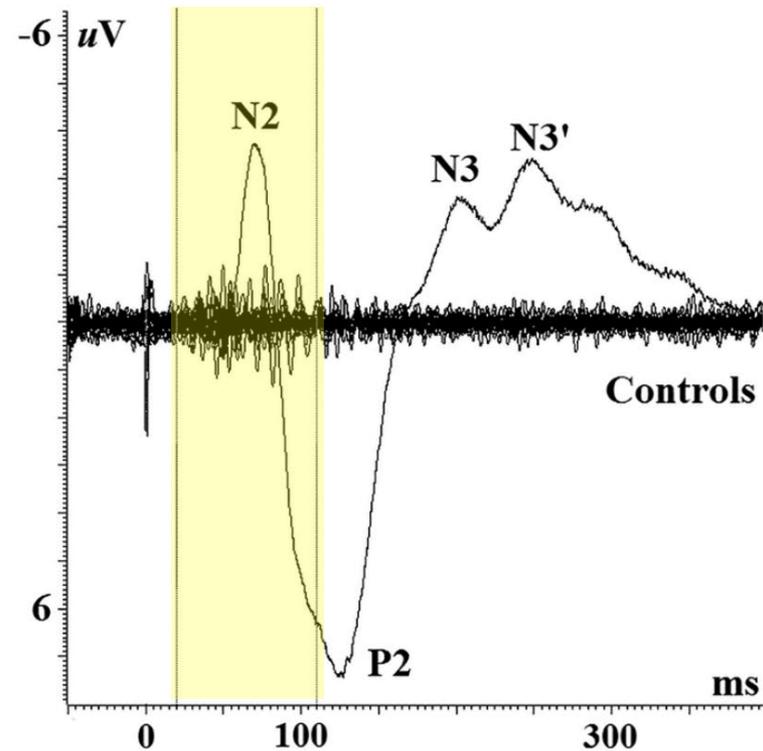
F-PEV filtrati per estrarre la banda in frequenza da 75 a 175 Hz



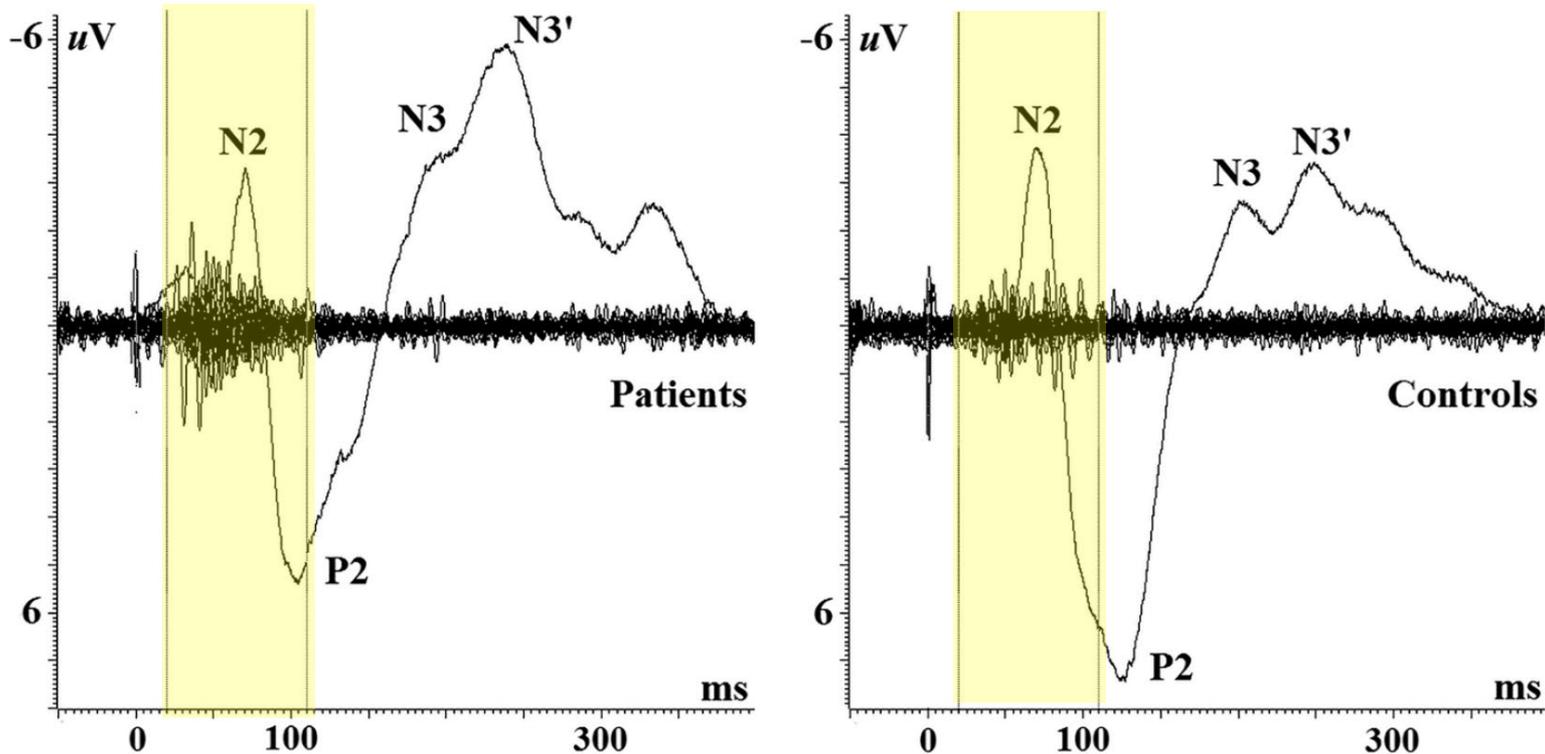
# Oscillazioni ad alta frequenza (OAF)



# Oscillazioni ad alta frequenza (OAF)



# Oscillazioni ad alta frequenza (OAF)

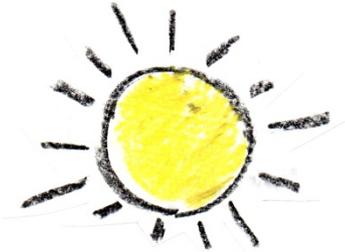


Strigaro et al. 2021

Il F-PEV contiene dell'attività oscillatoria ad alta frequenza (OAF).

RFP: OAF incrementate in termini di **ampiezza** e di **potenza spettrale** = suggerendo un ruolo nella generazione della risposta fotoparossistica.

# FOTOSENSIBILITA'



L'attività epilettica è indotta da stimoli luminosi intermittenti nei soggetti predisposti

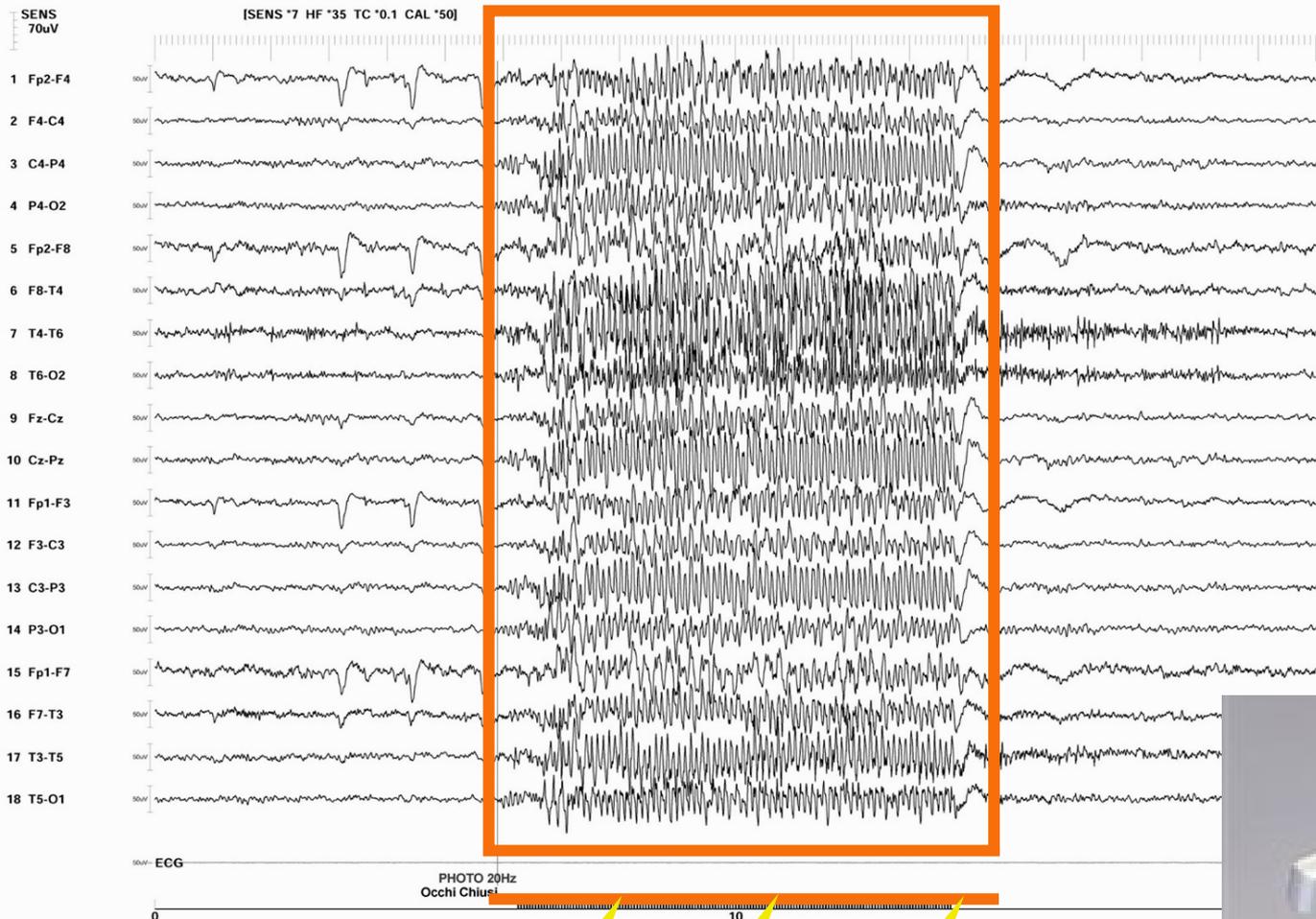
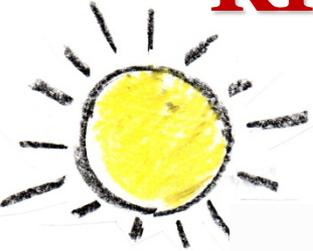
Manifestazione cliniche:

- sintomi visivi
- movimenti involontari  
(es. **mioclonie** agli arti)
- assenze



Crisi tonico-cloniche generalizzate

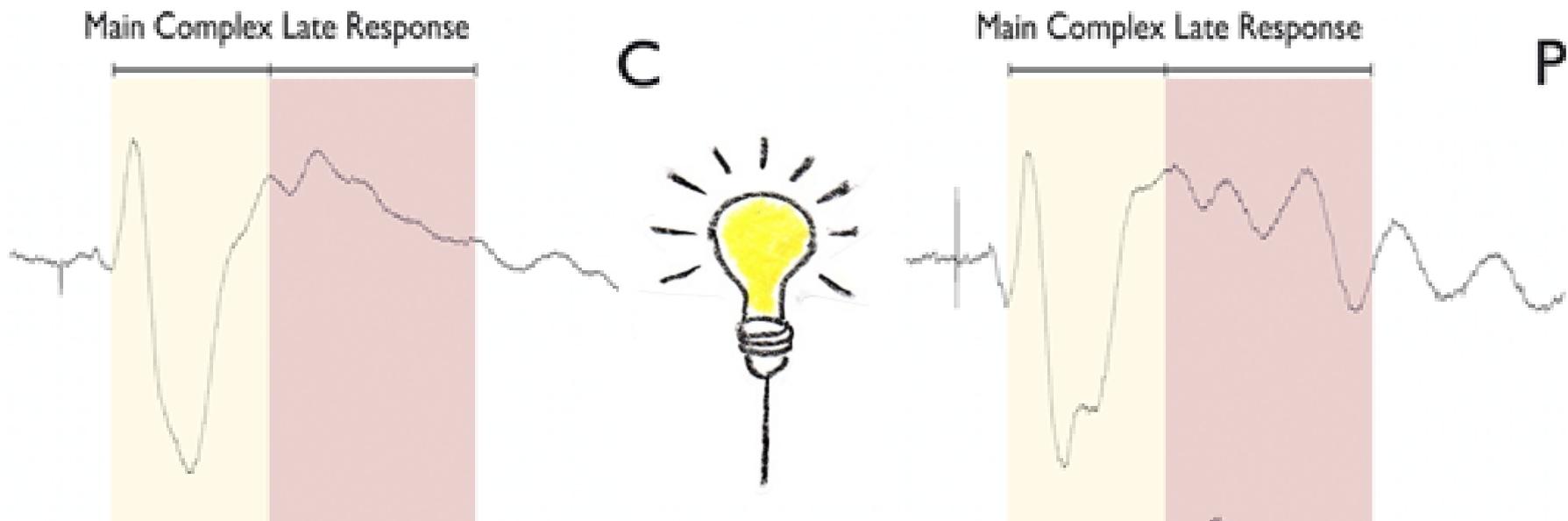
# RISPOSTA FOTOPAROSSISTICA: FORMA ELEMENTARE DI FOTOSENSIBILITA'



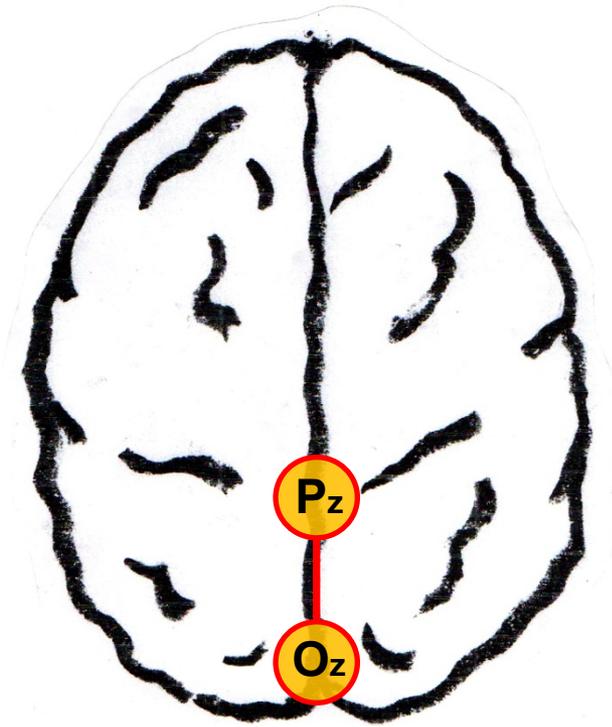
Stimolazione luminosa intermittente 20 Hz (SLI)



# POTENZIALI EVOCATI VISIVI DA SINGOLO FLASH (F-PEV)

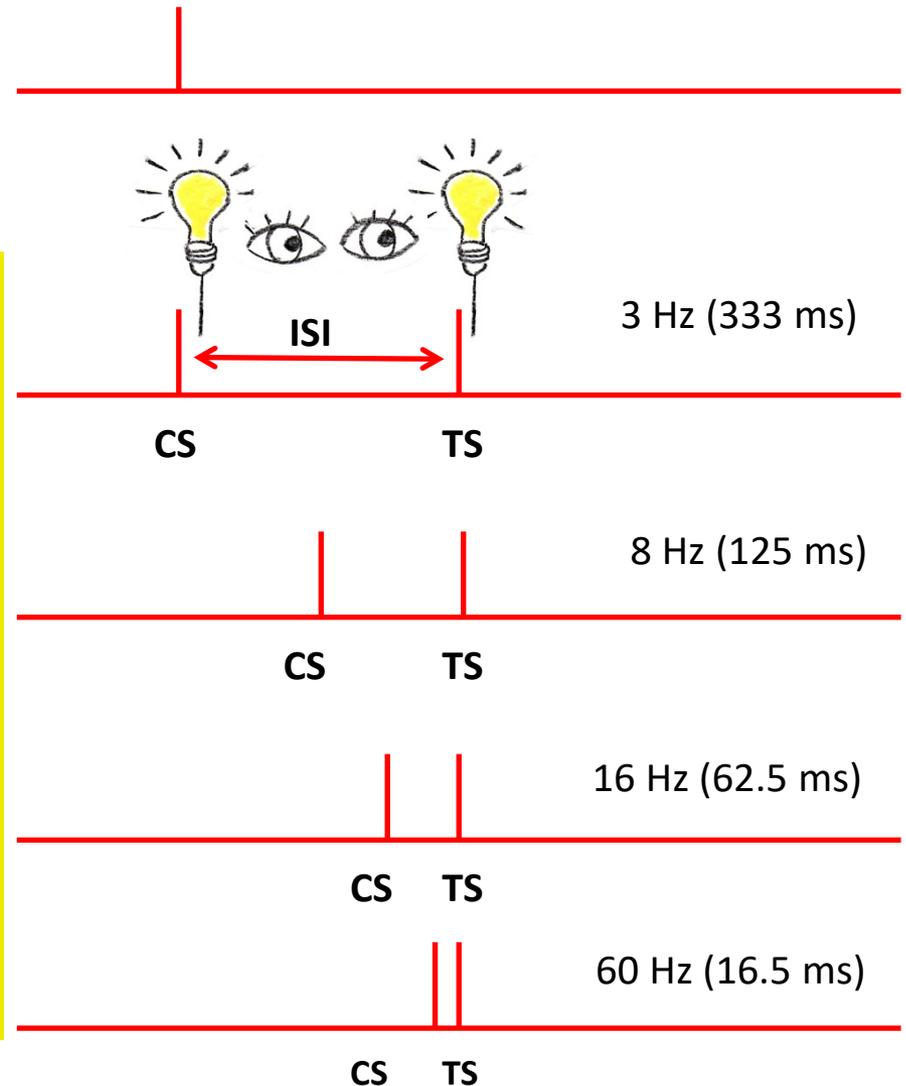


# PEV da doppio flash



Flash di luce bianca (0.64 Joules), singoli o doppi, ripetuti 100 volte per ogni condizione

doppi flash

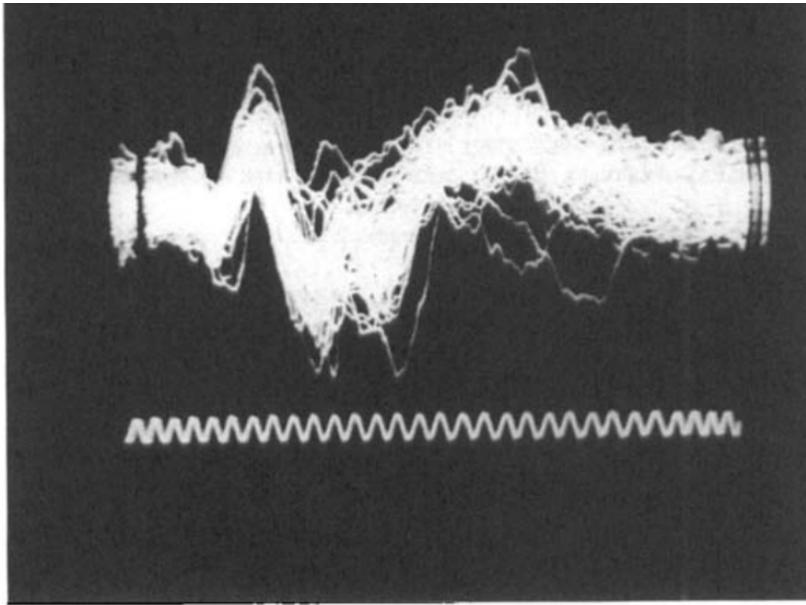


## EXCITABILITY CYCLE OF THE VISUAL CORTEX IN MAN

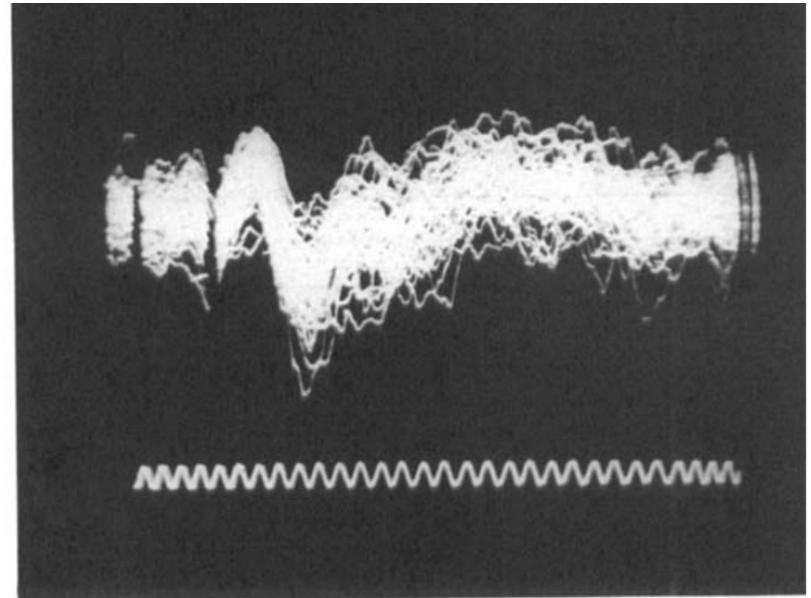
L. Cigánek

*Department of Clinical Electrophysiology, Institute of Experimental Medicine of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava, Czechoslovakia.*

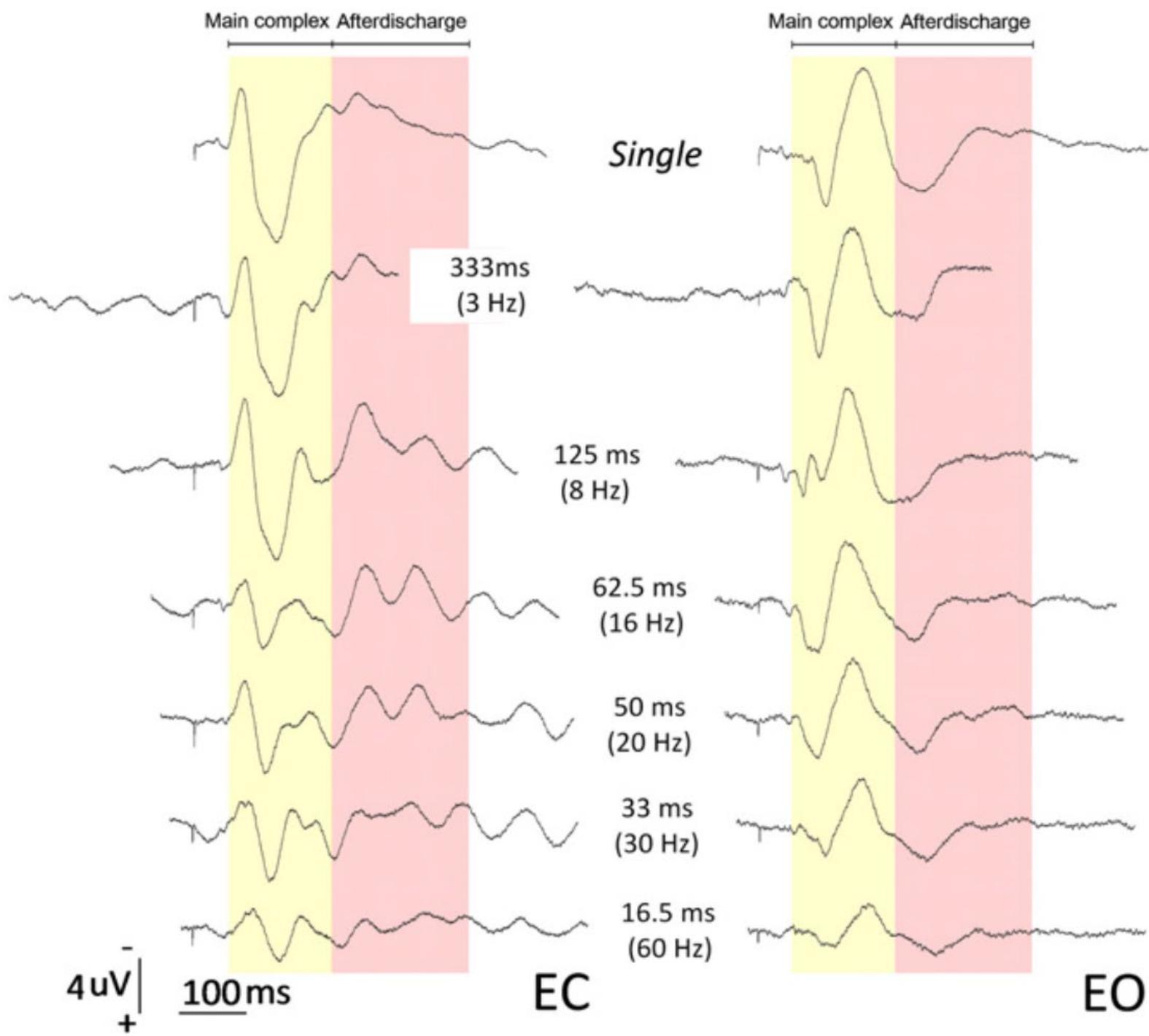
This paper deals with the excitability cycle of human visual cortex. For this purpose the responses (evoked potentials) to paired “conditioning” and “test” flashes, separated by varying intervals, were compared.



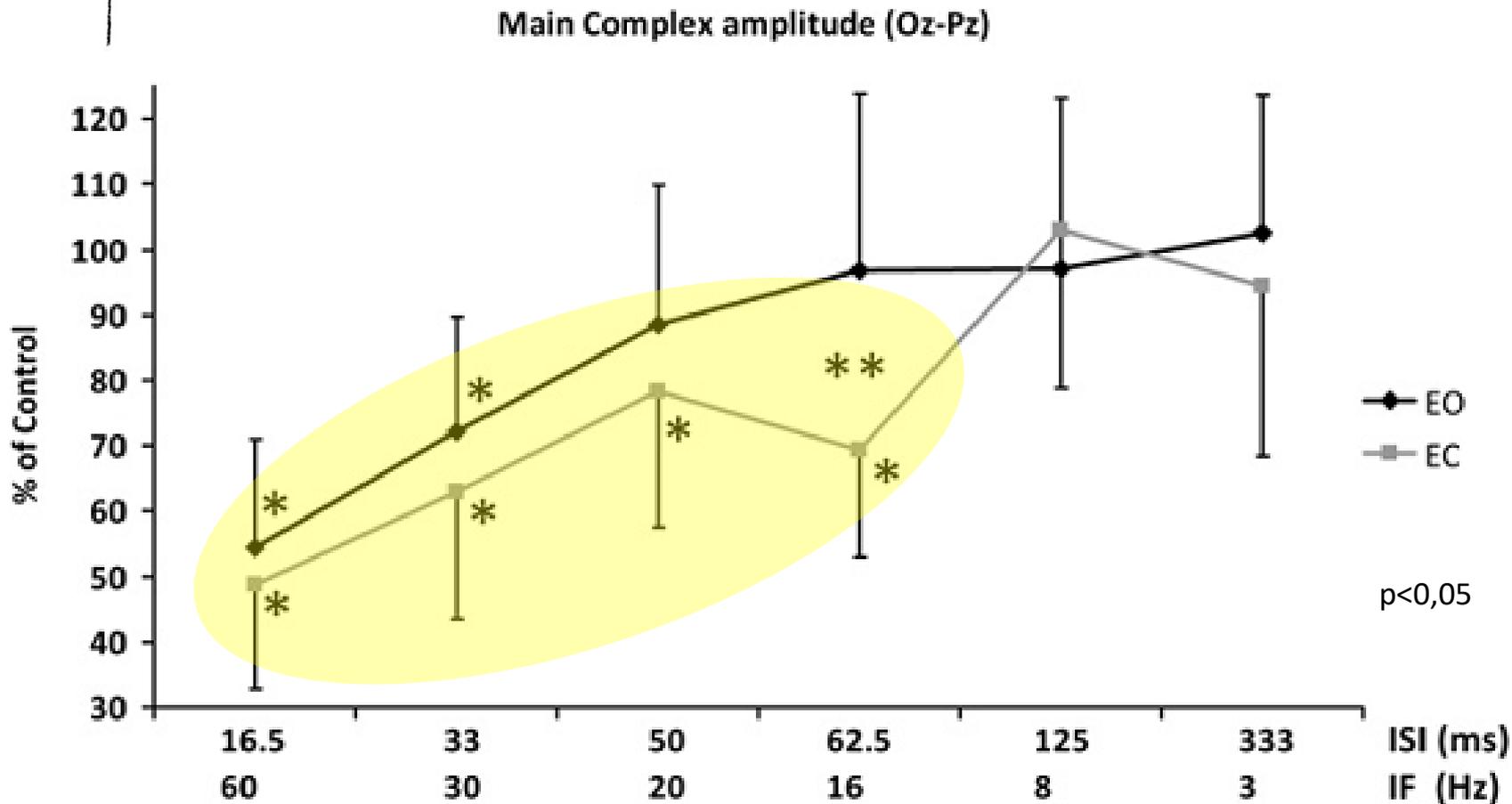
PEV da singolo flash



PEV da doppio flash (ISI 40 ms)



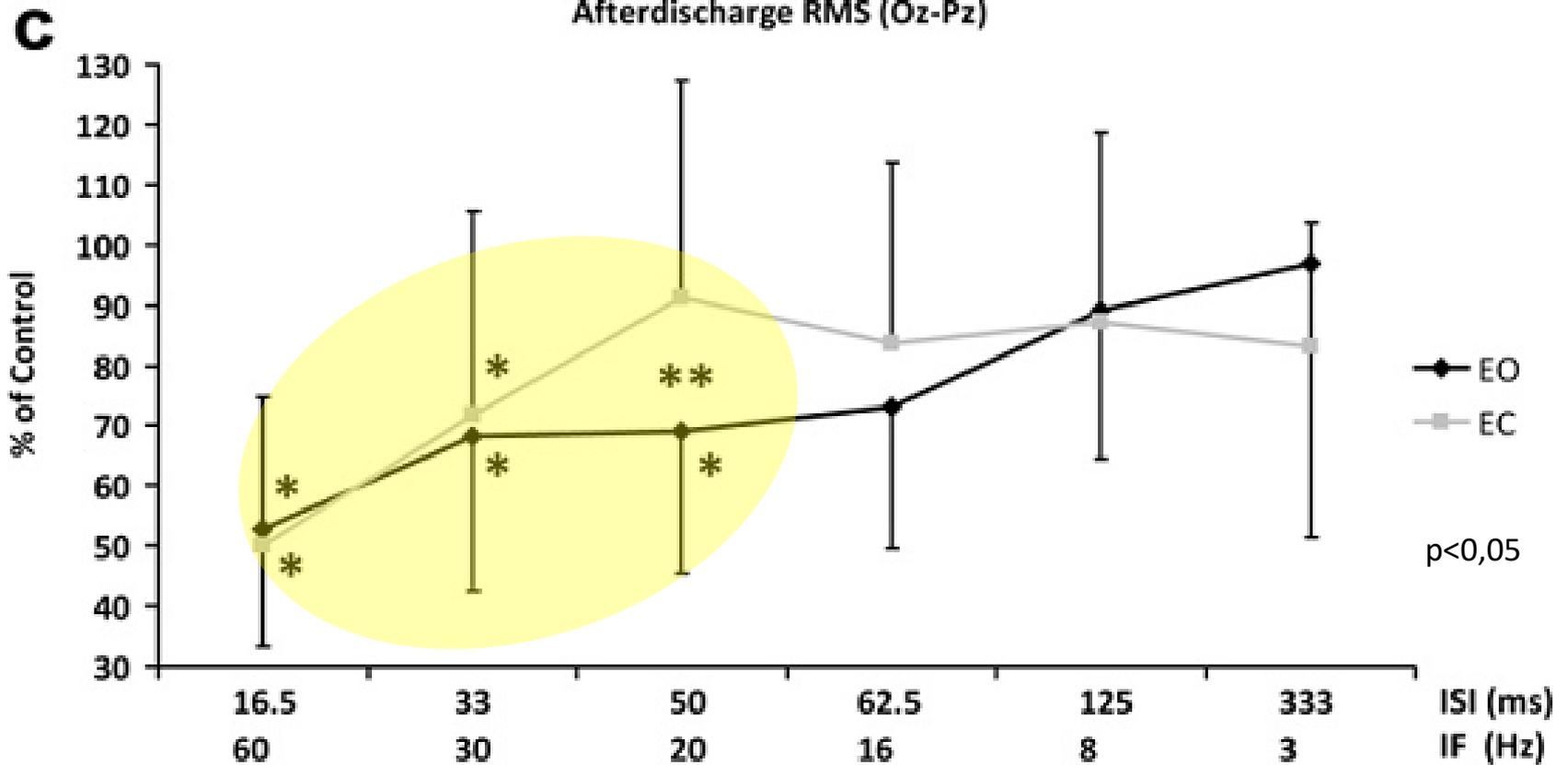
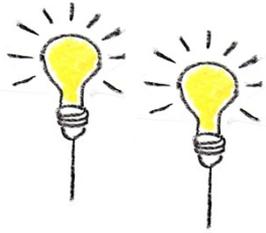
# PEV da doppio flash



Effetti inibitori dipendono:

- intervallo interstimolo (ISI)
- stato degli occhi

# PEV da doppio flash



# PEV da doppio flash

*Epilepsia*, 53(4):695–704, 2012  
doi: 10.1111/j.1528-1167.2012.03411.x

**Epilepsia**  
Official Journal of the International League Against Epilepsy

**FULL-LENGTH ORIGINAL RESEARCH**

## **Defective visual inhibition in photosensitive idiopathic generalized epilepsy**

**Gionata Strigaro, Paolo Prandi, Claudia Varrasi, <sup>1</sup>Francesco Monaco, and Roberto Cantello**

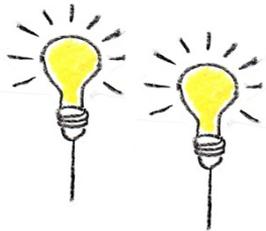
Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine, Section of Neurology, University of Piedmont East, “A. Avogadro,” Novara, Italy

- 19 pazienti con EGI e fotosensibilità (16 donne, età media 27.7; SD 7.4)
- 22 volontari sani (17 donne, età media 23.3; SD 2.1)

**Table 1. Main features of the patients**

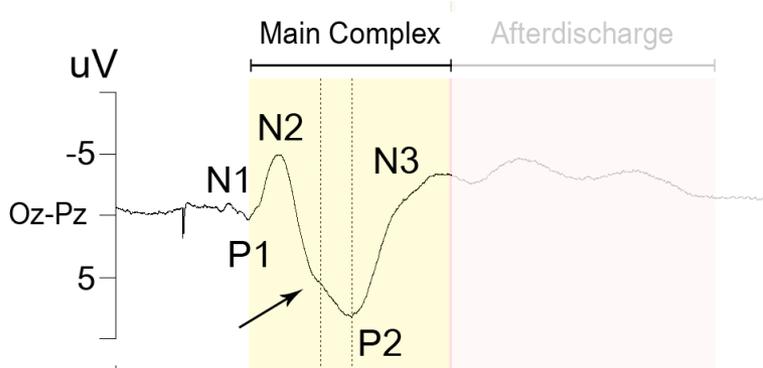
Patient no.	Age	Sex	Age at onset	Syndromic diagnosis	Reported seizure frequency	Current treatment (mg/die)
1	20	F	18	JME	Free	LEV 1000
2	18	F	16	JME	Free	VPA 800
3	29	F	15	JME	2/year	VPA 1000
4	45	F	17	JME	2/year	VPA 1300 LEV 1000
5	25	F	18	JME	Free	VPA 1000
6	21	F	12	JME	Free	LTG 250
7	32	M	12	JME	2–4/month (myoclonus)	VPA 1000
8	24	F	19	JME	Free	LEV 1000
9	28	M	15	JME	2–4/week (myoclonus)	VPA 1000 LEV 1000
10	35	F	13	JME	Free (since 1998)	VPA 600
11	28	M	12	JME	Free	VPA 1000
12	16	F	16	Photosensitive IGE	1/year	Refused
13	34	F	8	Photosensitive IGE	Free	PB 150
14	33	F	22	Photosensitive IGE	Free	VPA 1000
15	23	F	7	CAE	Free	None
16	25	F	25	Photosensitive IGE	1/year	VPA 1000
17	40	F	12	EMA	Persistent eyelid myoclonia on eye closure	PB 125
18	26	F	14	JAE	Free	VPA 900
19	24	F	7	Photosensitive IGE	Free	TPM 200

CAE, childhood absence epilepsy; EMA, eyelid myoclonia with absences; JAE, juvenile absence epilepsy; IGE, idiopathic generalized epilepsy; JME, juvenile myoclonic epilepsy; LEV, levetiracetam; VPA, sodium valproate; LTG, lamotrigine; PB, phenobarbital; TPM, topiramate.



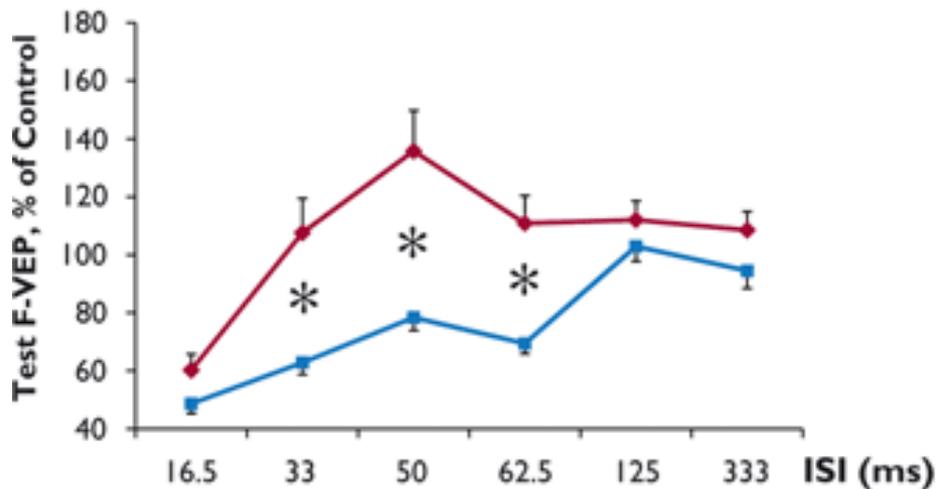
# Occhi chiusi pazienti vs controlli

Oz

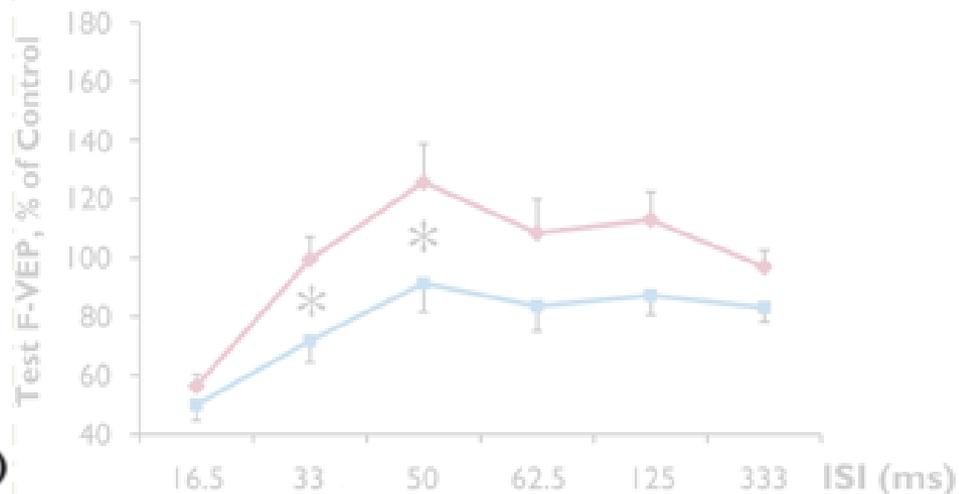


Pazienti  
Controlli

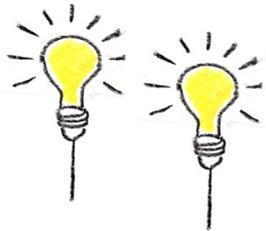
Main complex amplitude EC (Oz-Pz)



Late response RMS EC (Oz-Pz)

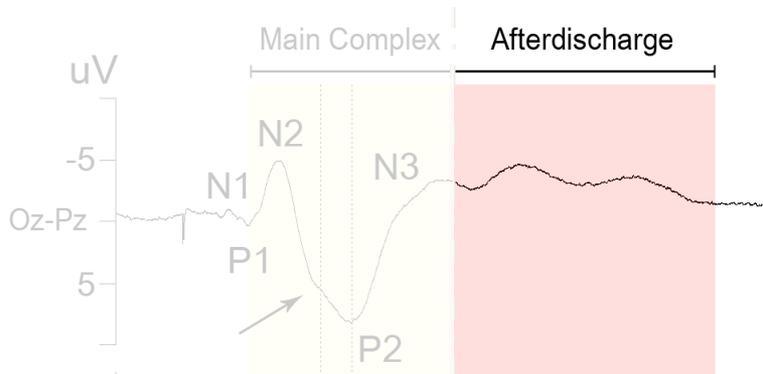


$p < 0.05$



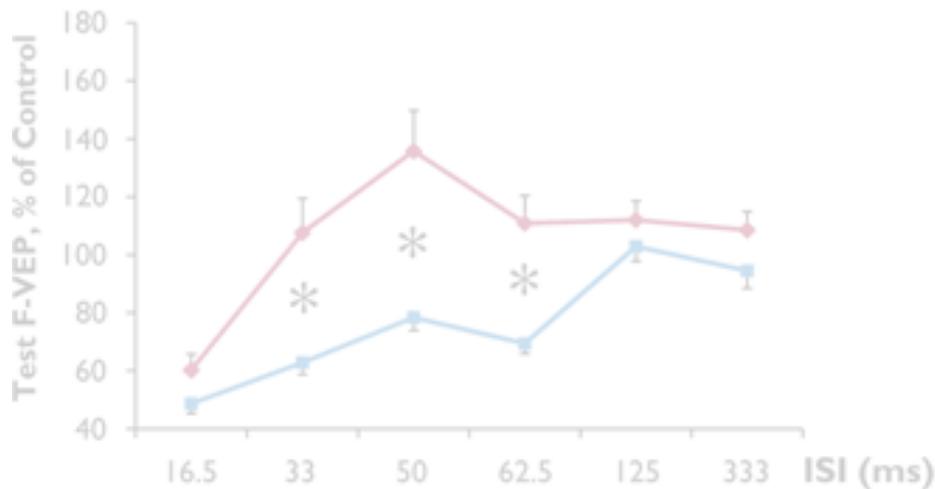
# Occhi chiusi pazienti vs controlli

Oz

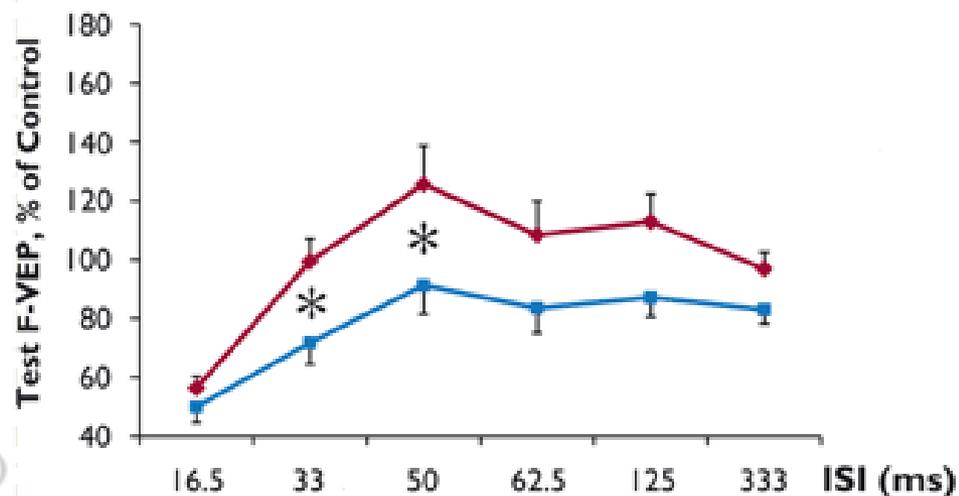


—+— Pazienti  
—■— Controlli

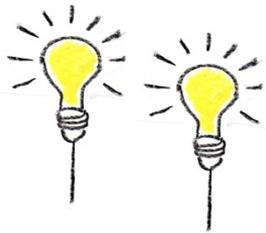
Main complex amplitude EC (Oz-Pz)



Late response RMS EC (Oz-Pz)

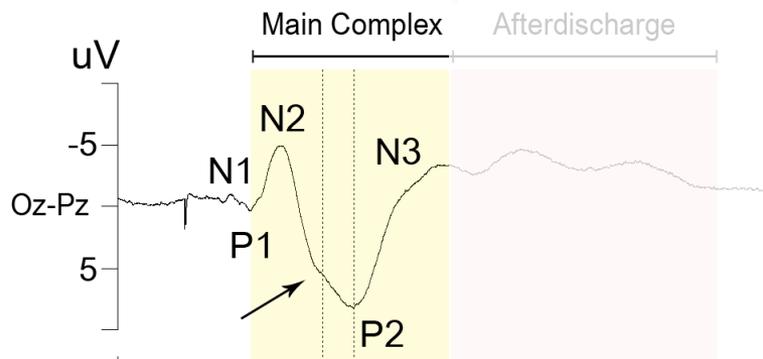


$p < 0.05$



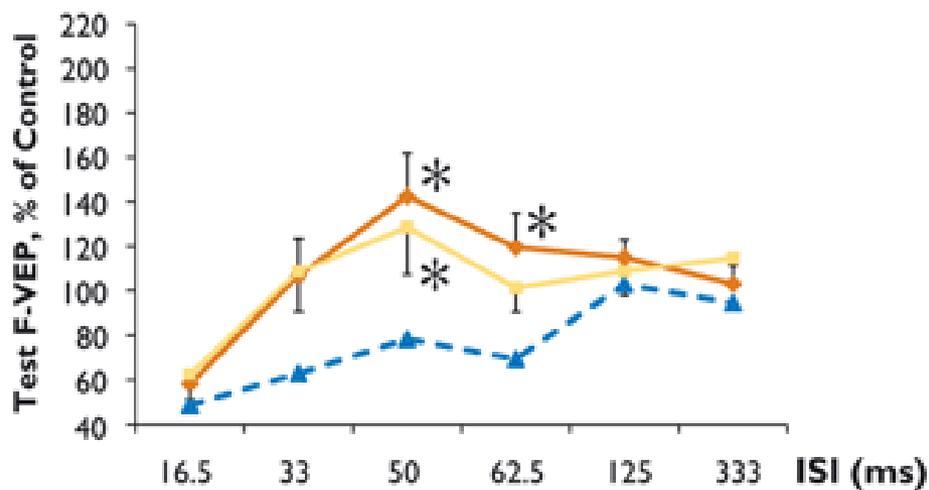
# Occhi chiusi in funzione del tipo di RFP

Oz

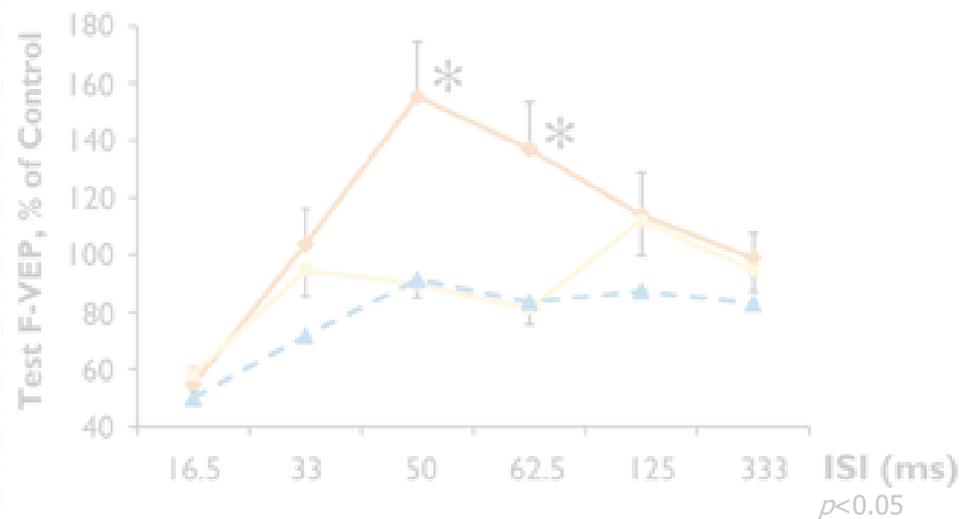


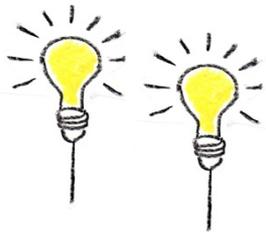
- Tipo III-IV
- Tipo II
- ▲- Controlli

Main complex amplitude EC (Oz-Pz)



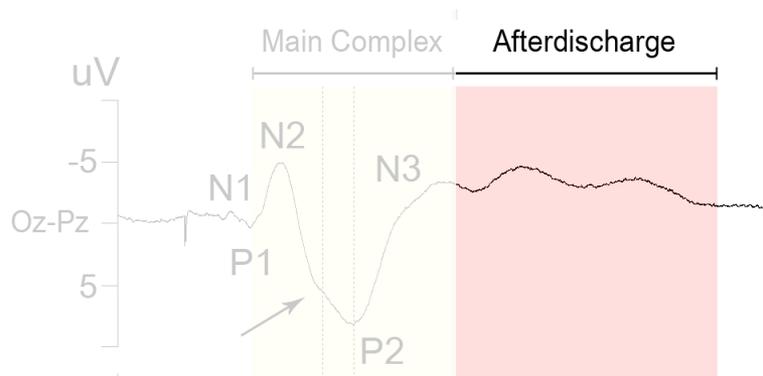
Late response RMS EC (Oz-Pz)





# Occhi chiusi in funzione del tipo di RFP

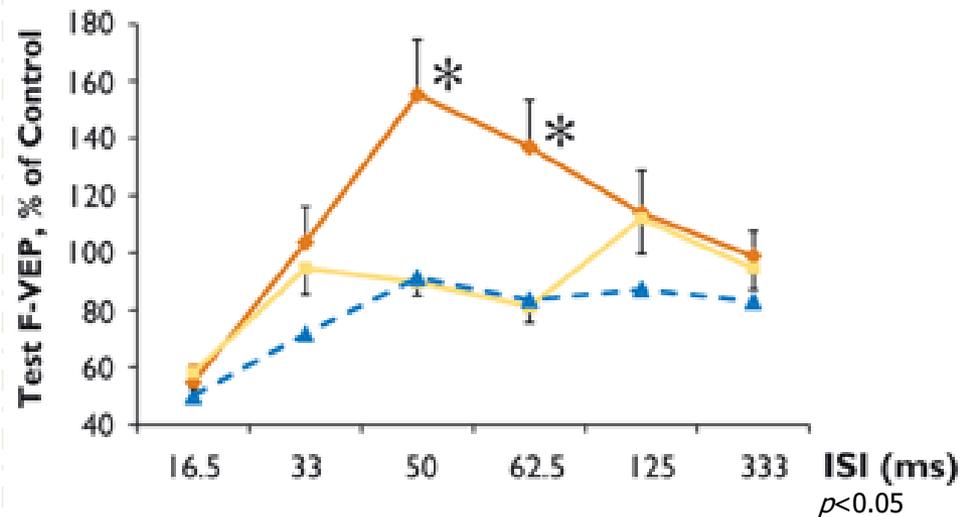
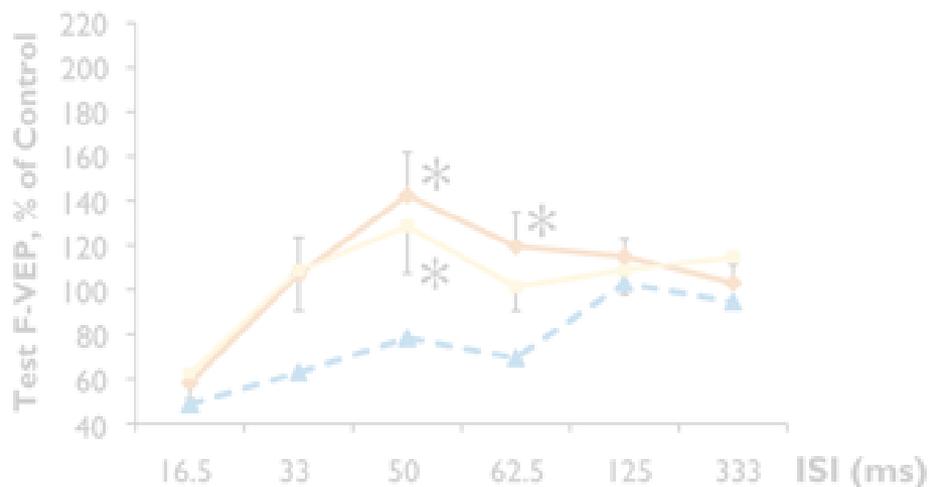
Oz



- Tipo II-IV
- Tipo II
- Controlli

Main complex amplitude EC (Oz-Pz)

Late response RMS EC (Oz-Pz)





# ***Risposta fotoparossistica implica***

## ***Deficit di inibizione nel sistema visivo***

- occhi chiusi
- 16 e 20 Hz  
= condizioni in cui la SLI è particolarmente attivante
- più grave in RFP diffusa

I PEV sono nati con l'EEG  
E bisogna volergli bene

**Chiedeteli**

**Interpretateli**

Non vi deluderanno!

