



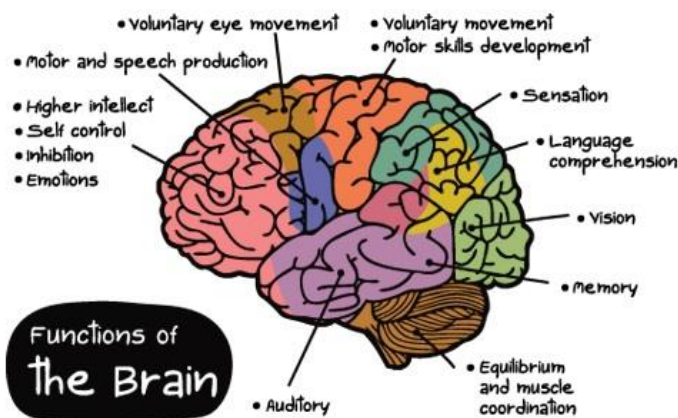
The Symptoms of Autoimmune Encephalitis

Autoimmune encephalitis (AE) can produce a very wide range of neuro-psychiatric symptoms. A major challenge in diagnosis is that different symptoms may appear at different times and different levels of intensity, so that the disease may mimic many other disorders. Some patients initially present with either neurological or psychiatric symptoms, further complicating diagnosis.

An otherwise unexplained mixture of these neuro-psychiatric symptoms may be a clue that the underlying cause is autoimmune encephalitis.

Symptoms associated with AE can include:

memory disturbance, weakness or numbness of part of the body, loss of balance, slowed or blurred speech or loss of ability to speak, ataxia, involuntary movements, distorted vision, cognitive impairment, decreased level of consciousness – to the point of unresponsiveness, catatonia or coma, seizures – (either self-evident, or smaller seizures that show up on an EEG reading), behavior change, (aggression, panic attacks, compulsive behaviors, euphoria or fear), partial or complete loss of appetite for long periods, food and drink tasting inedible or triggering nausea,



excessive eating without feeling sated, agitation, inability to sleep, loss of inhibition, inappropriate sexual behaviors, rapid, pressured, or involuntary speech, psychosis, hallucinations (visual or auditory) and delirium, paranoid thoughts, severe anxiety, depression.