Late-onset epilepsy (LOE) affects a large number of people aged 65 years or older. However, it is not clear how LOE causes and affects mortality in older adults. People with late-onset epilepsy are at increased risk of death, mainly due to stroke and dementia.

**Study Question**
What is the risk of mortality and causes of death in patients with LOE?

**Data from Centers for Medicare Services fee-for-service claims**
- 9,090 participants aged 45–64 years
- 678 participants who developed LOE
- Median follow-up 11.5 years

**Cox proportional hazards analysis**
Patients with LOE had increased hazard of mortality (AHR = 2.39, 95% CI: 2.21–2.71)

Mortality in patients with LOE was mostly due to:
- Stroke
- Dementia
- Other neurologic conditions
- End-stage renal disease

**Likely causes of epilepsy**
- Stroke
- Dementia

**Identification of**
- Mortality hazard associated with LOE (adjusted hazard ratio, AHR)
- Cause of death