**Background:** Complications occurring during the early phase of acute stroke have influence on the final outcome. One of such complications is early-onset post stroke seizure which may potentially influence outcome. This study aimed at determining the frequency, clinical characteristics and functional outcome of patients with early-onset post stroke seizures seen at the University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital.

**Methods:** Consecutively consenting adult Nigerians with acute stroke who met the inclusion criteria were prospectively recruited. Early-onset seizure was defined as the first seizure occurring within 2 weeks of stroke onset. History of seizures before presenting to the hospital was obtained while seizure chart (for seizure type, frequency and duration) was kept for each patient right from admission. All patients had a cranial CT scan and were evaluated for the pathologic type, region of brain affected and the hemisphere affected. Stroke severity was assessed using the National Institutes of Health Stroke Scale. Functional outcome at 30 days was assessed using the modified Rankin Scale. Data was compared between the group with and without seizures. Chi-square test was used to test the difference between categorical variables and univariate analysis was used as appropriate. A p value of less than 0.05 was taken to be statistically significant.

**Result:** A total of 100 patients with a male to female ratio of 1.3:1 were recruited. The frequency of early-onset post stroke seizures was 12%. Early-onset post stroke seizure was significantly associated with intracerebral haemorrhage ($\chi^2 = 5.566$, $p=0.018$), cortical stroke ($\chi^2 = 6.866$, $p=0.010$), severe stroke i.e. NIHSS $> 14$ ($\chi^2 = 7.924$, $P=0.005$), and presence of other complications ($\chi^2 = 7.429$, $p=0.026$). EEG patterns included left focal slowing, periodic
left spike and slow wave, while some had normal EEG. Good functional outcome was present in 60.0% and 56.5% of between patients with and without early-onset seizures respectively, but the difference was not statistically significant.

**Conclusion:** Early-onset post stroke seizures are common in the cohort of patients studied. Its clinical profile largely does not appear different from earlier studies both within and outside the country. However, a larger, multi-center and prospective study will be necessary to clarify the position better.

**KEYWORDS:** EARLY-ONSET, SEIZURES, POST-STROKE, FREQUENCY