# Epilepsy:

Epilepsy is a neurological (brain-related) disorder in which a person has a tendency to get repeated seizures.

A seizure happens when there is a sudden burst of abnormal electrical activity in the brain.



### What Causes Epilepsy?

- Common causes include:
- Head injury
- Stroke
- Brain infections (meningitis, encephalitis)
- Genetic factors
- High fever in children (febrile seizures often temporary)
- Sometimes the cause is unknown

## How is Epilepsy Diagnosed?

A doctor may recommend:

- •EEG (Electroencephalogram)
- records brain activity
- •MRI/CT Scan to check for structural brain problems
- •Blood tests to rule out other conditions

#### Seizure:

A seizure can appear in many ways: Sudden jerking movements of arms or legs Staring blankly or unresponsive for a few seconds

Sudden fall or loss of consciousness Unusual sensations, smells, or feelings Repetitive movements like lip-smacking or blinking

Not all seizures look the same. Some are brief and silent, while others involve convulsions.



Epilepsy is treatable.

With proper medication, safety measures, and regular follow-ups, most people live fully normal lives.



### **Treatment Options:**

Epilepsy can be well-controlled in most people.

1. Anti-Seizure Medications (ASMs)

Common medicines include:

- Sodium valproate
- •Levetiracetam
- Carbamazepine
- •Phenytoin
- •Lamotrigine

It is important to take medicines regularly as prescribed. Do not stop suddenly, as this may trigger seizures.

2. Surgery

In patients whose seizures do not improve with medicines.

- 3. Lifestyle Measures
- •Adequate sleep
- •Managing stress
- •Avoiding alcohol or recreational drugs
- •Safety precautions during swimming, cooking, heights, etc.

# First Aid During a Seizure Do:

- •Stay calm
- •Lay the person on their side
- •Remove sharp objects nearby
- •Loosen tight clothing
- •Time the seizure

### Do NOT:

- •Do NOT put anything in their mouth
- •Do NOT hold the person down
- •Do NOT give food or water during the seizure Seek emergency help if:
- •Seizure lasts more than 5 minutes
- •Repeated seizures without recovery
- •Person has trouble breathing
- •Seizure occurs in pregnancy or diabetes
- •It's the person's first seizure

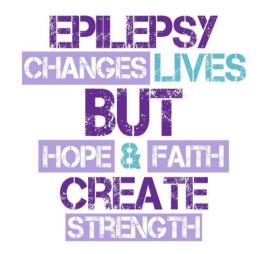
# Living with Epilepsy:

Most people with epilepsy can:

- •Work normally
- •Study and participate in regular activities
- •Get married and have children
- •Live a long and healthy life Important considerations:
- •Driving rules vary by country usually seizure-free period required
- •Always carry a medical ID card mentioning epilepsy
- •Take medicines regularly
- •Keep follow-up visits with your doctor

### When to Contact Your Doctor:

- •Breakthrough seizures despite taking medicines
- •Side effects like severe rashes, excessive drowsiness, mood changes
- •Pregnancy planning (some medicines need adjustment)





### Contact Us:

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