



Connecticut Epilepsy Advocate, Inc. 20 Salem Walk Milford, CT 06460-7132 (203) 874 - 8731 (203) 915 - 6492 (cell) ctepilepsy@optonline.net

www.ct-ea.org

Find Us On:







The Connecticut Epilepsy Advocate was formed as an alternative organization to raise Epilepsy-Awareness.

Our goal is to focus on the many facets of Epilepsy not currently explored to their fullest. Our website has over fifteen pages filled with useful information; please feel free to use it to educate yourself and others.

Our organization will interact with people to help them in any way we can to deal with Epilepsy, and if there is something we do not know (and trust me, we do not know it all) we will do our best to find someone for them to speak with who can give them the information they need. Each of us here just wants more people to become "Epilepsy-Aware"!

www.ct-ea.org

The Connecticut Epilepsy Advocate



Recommends Medic Alert For Your Medical Identification Purposes.



www.medicalalert.org



Prescriptions:

www.ct-ea.org/prescriptions.html





SSI-SSDI & Medicare:

www.ct-ea.org/ssissdiandmedicare.html



Transportation:

www.ct-ea.org/transportationlinks.html



About Us

The Connecticut Epilepsy Advocate was formed as an alternative organization to make more people "Aware About Epilepsy".

As conventional as we may appear, we try to be a little different from other organizations. We have set as our goal, helping people living with Epilepsy in any way we can. Many things seen on our website may seem conventional, and might even be taken for granted. However, to the many living with Epilepsy, those same things are unconventional. How so, you ask? Well, many (but not all) people living with Epilepsy cannot work, they cannot drive and they do not know about public transportation available to them. Many cannot afford to pay for their medication. They even have trouble finding a neurologist.

There are Medic Alert bracelets and wrist chains that can tell an EMT, doctor or even a stranger you have Epilepsy. We have even designed what we call an I.C.E. Sheet (In Case of Emergency). These items can be extremely helpful. Trust me, I know from experience that when you have a seizure, you probably cannot speak, and so those around you will not know what is happening.

Those are just a few of the many things you will find addressed on this website and by this organization.

Mission Statement

It is the objective of the Connecticut Epilepsy Advocate, Inc. to offer transportation and hospitalization information, contacts and links to companies that manufacture anti-seizure medication and assistance with anti-seizure medication and seizure alert dogs for people living with Epilepsy.

- Q: What is Epilepsy?
- A: Epilepsy is a neurological condition that from time to time produces brief disturbances in the normal electrical functions of the brain. Epilepsy affects more than 50 million people in the world, over 3 million people in the United States and approximately 60,000 people in Connecticut.
- Q: What do you do when a person has a seizure?
- A: Before we give you our point of view regarding "What do you do when a person has a seizure", please understand this. The calling of 911 immediately "sometimes" is not necessary and "sometimes" is paramount. If you know the person well enough to know how serious their seizures are, it may not be imperative to call 911.

Clear the area and try to lay the person down. If you have a pillow put their head on it. Look for a MEDIC*ALERT Bracelet or anything similar to it as well as I.C.E. Numbers. Keep track of the time from when the seizure started. When three minutes has passed, be ready to call 911. When the EMTs arrive, please inform them of everything that happened. Never put anything in a person's mouth. It is physically impossible to swallow one's tongue. That is a myth.

- **Q:** Should people living with Epilepsy consume alcoholic beverages?
- A: No. Alcoholic beverages and medications for Epilepsy do not mix.
- Q: How long has Epilepsy been around?
- A: Epilepsy was discussed in texts by the Babylonians in 6th century B.C. and then the Greeks after that. The first known description of Epilepsy appears in the Hippocratic text of 350 B.C., and Epilepsy has been called the "Hippocratic disease." Julius Caesar was famously epileptic.

- Q: Is there a cure for Epilepsy?
- A: Unfortunately there is not. However, advances have been made to determine what causes seizures and how medications, surgery, Vagus Nerve Stimulation (VNS) and the Ketogenic Diet can reduce or eliminate them.
- Q: Are there medications for Epilepsy?
- A: Presently there are over 50 medications for Epilepsy which come in tablet, capsule, liquid and rectal injection form.
- **Q:** Is there any type of surgery to help correct Epilepsy?
- A: You can Google "Temporal Lobectomy Surgery" to see details of the procedure, or "Epilepsy Surgery" to see other types of procedures.

Sir Victor Horsley performed one of the first documented Epilepsy surgeries in 1886. (Although it may have been done earlier than that). Other surgeons that have done them are William Macewen and Sir Hugh Cairns.

- **Q:** Is there anything else to help people living with Epilepsy?
- A: The Ketogenic Diet, Vagus Nerve Stimulator, taking your medications as your doctor or neurologist has prescribed. Be consistent. Get seven or more hours of sleep per night and always Think Positive.

For More Information about Epilepsy along with other helpful information:

www.ct-ea.org/informationlinks.html