Understanding Epilepsy

Epilepsy, one of the most common neurological diseases in the world, is a chronic disorder characterized by recurrent seizures. Epilepsy’s impact on those living with it is often so severe that it results in a significant economic burden. 

Types of Seizures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Generalized Onset</td>
<td>Seizures begin simultaneously on both sides of the brain or entire nervous system.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Partial-Onset (Focal)</td>
<td>Seizures start in one area of the brain and spread to other areas.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unknown Onset</td>
<td>The beginning of the seizure is not known.</td>
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Current Unmet Need

Seizures, with the most common neurological disorders in the world, is a chronic disorder characterized by recurrent seizures. Epilepsy is a complex condition that can have a high risk of more severe seizures, particularly in the first 24 hours or after one seizure with a high risk of more. 

Epilepsy’s Impact

Epilepsy creates a significant burden on many aspects of life for people living with epilepsy and their caregivers. 

Epilepsy by the Numbers

- Nearly 50 million people suffer from epilepsy worldwide, including 3 million adults and 470,000 children in the U.S. 
- 1 in 26 people in the U.S. or 50,000,000 Americans living with epilepsy today. 
- 150,000 new cases of epilepsy diagnosed each year in the U.S. 
- 470,000 children in the U.S. develop epilepsy. 

Seizures are a symptom of many different disorders that can be caused by complex chemical changes that occur in nerve cells. Seizures can occur when there is too much or too little electrical activity in the brain causing an imbalance. 

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the economic impact of epilepsy is significant for the families of people with epilepsy and the healthcare system. For people with epilepsy, the cost of health care can be critical to employment, socialization, and self-esteem. People with epilepsy say they experience higher rates of stress, isolation due to their epilepsy, and feeling misunderstood when they were previously informed of their condition. 

Current Unmet Need

While important advances have been made over the years, many challenges remain. Patients report feeling like their health is not well-controlled, and many are dissatisfied with the quality of care they receive. High-lighting for care can be very disruptive to their lives. 

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