

♦ What is Epilepsy:

- Epilepsy is a neurological disorder that presents itself in the form of a seizure.
- A person must have more than one seizure to be diagnosed with epilepsy.
- Epilepsy does not discriminate and 1/26 people will develop a seizure disorder in their life.

♦ Types of Epilepsy:

- There are two broad categories: generalized and focal.
- Not all seizures present themselves with the loss of consciousness and convulsions.
- Many seizure disorders include types of seizures where the person goes into "a trance".

♦ What Causes Epilepsy:

- Genetics, brain injury or trauma, and/or structural changes (tumors, growths, nerve damage).
- About half of all people diagnosed with epilepsy do not know the cause.

♦ Myth Buster::

- A person having a seizure can swallow their tongue ~ it is impossible to swallow your tongue.
- All epileptics are affected by flashing lights ~ only about 3% of epileptics are affected by flashing lights (Photosensitive Epilepsy).
- All seizures cause you to jerk ~ there are many types of seizures and not all of them cause Convulsions and loss of consciousness.



♦ What is CURE?

- Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy (CURE) is a nonprofit organization that works to promote epilepsy research.
- It was founded in 1998 by Susan Axelrod and a small group of parents of children with epilepsy.
- Since then, CURE has raised more than \$50 million to fund epilepsy research
- CURE funds grants for young and established investigators
- To date, CURE has awarded more than 200 cutting-edge projects in 15 countries around the world in their search for a cure.
- Initiatives CURE currently funds:
 - Epilepsy Genetics Initiative (EGI)
 - Post-Traumatic Epilepsy
 - Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP)
 - Infantile Spasm Initiative

♦ References:

- Epilepsy Society ~ www.epilepsysociety.org.uk
- CURE ~ www.cureepilepsy.org
- National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke ~ www.ninds.nih.gov
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ~ www.cdc.gov

♦ What to do if you see someone having a seizure:

- Time the seizure.
- Remain calm
- Stay with the person until the seizure ends and they are fully awake.
- Comfort the person as they regain full Consciousness.

♦ Only call 911 if:

- The person has not had a seizure before.
- The seizure lasts longer than 5 minutes.
- The person is hurt during the seizure.
- The seizure occurred in water.
- The person has difficulty walking or breathing after the seizure ends.
- The person has another seizure just after the first

One.

♦ DO NOT:

- Hold the person down or try to stop the seizure.
- Try to open/put anything in the person's mouth.
- Try to give mouth-to-mouth.
- Give the person food or water until after they are fully alert.

♦ Our Mission:

- Raise epilepsy awareness
- Bust some of the many misconceptions of epilepsy and its causes.
- Fundraise for CURE
 - Epilepsy remains one of the most underfunded health conditions

♦ Our Goal:

- We are striving to raise \$2,000 for the CURE foundation to continue their efforts in finding the causes and cure for epilepsy.
- We appreciate any and all help we can get!

Please donate online at
<http://cureep.convio.net/goto/goreal>