

AdventHealth Orlando offers the most advanced technology available for monitoring and diagnosing epilepsy and related conditions. The Neuroscience Institute is nationally recognized as one of the leading epilepsy-treatment centers in the United States. We are dedicated to serving the needs of both adult and pediatric patients suffering from a variety of epileptic conditions.

- AdventHealth has the only Level 4 epilepsy center in Central Florida for both adult and pediatric patients
- Sophisticated diagnostic and monitoring tools, including magnetoencephalography (MEG)—brain mapping, the only one in the state of Florida.
- Comprehensive treatment that brings together a team of experts from 30 epilepsy subspecialties dedicated to treating you
- Latest in non-surgical and surgical interventions with minimally invasive procedures, laser ablation, proven therapies and new drug trials
- Innovative treatments, like NeuroPace RNS® - a pacemaker for the brain- and the only ROSA (Robotic Stereotactic Assistance) in Central Florida
- The only nationally recognized Tuberous Sclerosis Clinic serving both adult and pediatric patients in Florida



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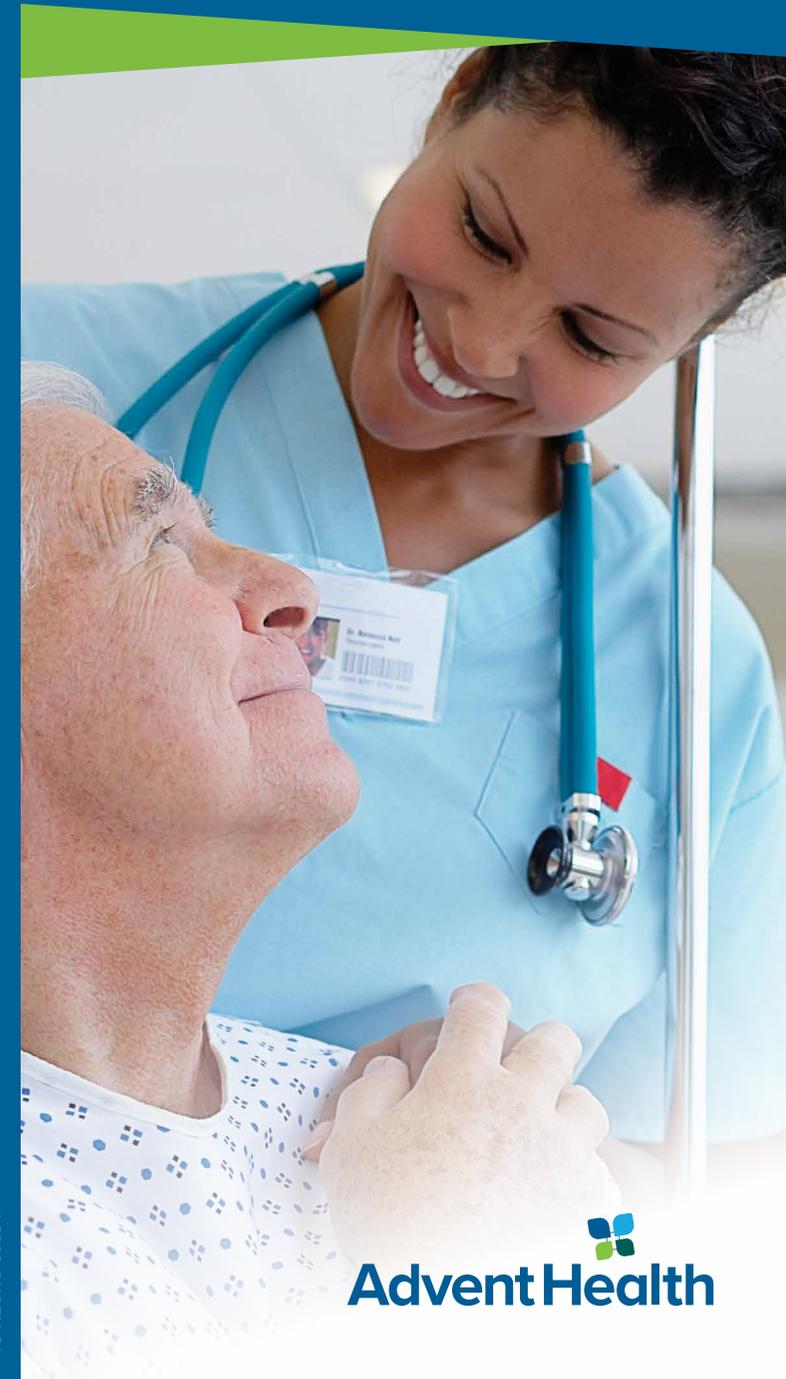
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Adult Epilepsy

Symptoms & Treatments



1 IN 26 PEOPLE
IN THE UNITED STATES
WILL DEVELOP EPILEPSY
OR RECURRING SEIZURES
IN THEIR LIFETIME.

SOURCE: AMERICAN EPILEPSY SOCIETY

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A National Leader in Epilepsy Treatment

What is epilepsy?

Epilepsy is defined as two or more unprovoked seizures. It is one of the most common central nervous system disorders, affecting about one in 100 people in the United States of all ages and ethnicities. Seizures usually first appear between 5 and 20 years of age, but can begin at any age.

Medicine can control seizures in about 70 percent of patients, but other treatment options, including surgery, may be needed to eliminate the source of seizures if they cannot be controlled through other methods.



Seizures occur when the brain “misfires” and disrupts brain activity; they are symptoms of many neurological and systemic illnesses affecting brain function temporarily. Epilepsy is one of the many causes of seizures. Seizures may be very mild (petit mal), characterized by rapid blinking or staring blankly into space for brief periods, or they can be severe, causing loss of consciousness and convulsions (grand mal). Doctors divide seizures into two main categories: focal seizures that occur in just one area of the brain, and generalized seizures affecting both sides of the brain.

What causes epilepsy?

The causes of epilepsy relate to various medical conditions, altering either function or structure of the brain.

Among the more common causes of epilepsy are:

- Stroke
- Infections of the brain, such as meningitis, brain abscesses and encephalitis
- Traumatic injuries to the head
- Brain injury occurring during or soon after birth
- Congenital or developmental malformation of the brain, including focal cortical dysplasia and tuberous sclerosis
- Brain tumors
- Genetic disorders, such as gene mutations and chromosomal anomalies
- Degenerative neurological disorders, such as Alzheimer’s disease

Epilepsy Treatment Options

Treatment of epilepsy starts with accurate diagnosis of epilepsy: confirmation of epilepsy, characterization of seizures, localization of seizure focus, and identification of cause. Treatment options are tailored to an accurate diagnosis and the patient’s individual circumstances.

- **Medication:** For about two thirds of people with epilepsy, the most effective treatment option is antiepileptic medication, which may be used singly or in combination. Depending on how the patient responds, the doctor may adjust dosage or change drugs. More than 20 types of antiepileptic medications are now available.
- **Surgery:** When seizures always begin in one area of the brain, and medication alone does not control seizures, surgery may be considered as a treatment for epilepsy. Location is critical, as doctors prefer not to perform surgery in areas of the brain used in everyday behavior, speech, language and the senses. In the most common surgery, a temporal lobe resection, a neurosurgeon removes the small part of the brain where seizures start. Other procedures seek to prevent seizures from spreading from one area of the brain to another.
- **Diet:** A ketogenic diet is a high-fat and low-carbohydrate regimen that has proven to help the body produce natural anticonvulsants and control seizures. AdventHealth offers the only physician-led ketogenic diet program in the state of Florida.