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Diagnosis and Treatment in Childhood Epilepsy

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Message from the Guest Editor

Epilepsy is the most common serious chronic neurological condition in children. The diagnosis and treatment of childhood epilepsy might differ significantly from adult-onset epilepsy, such as infantile spasms, Dravet syndrome, and Lennox–Gastaut syndrome appear uniquely depending on age. Furthermore, the objective in treating these children is to enhance cognition, learning, school performance, and seizure freedom with minimal adverse effects.

Many new antiseizure medicines with novel mechanisms of action have been approved for childhood-onset rare epilepsy syndromes, however, about 20–30% of children have drug-resistant epilepsy (DRE). Vagus nerve stimulator therapy has long been available for children with DRE, but responsive neurostimulation therapy and deep-brain stimulation therapy are now on the horizon, both of which are approved for adults with refractory epilepsy. Lessinvasive surgical techniques are also explored in children with epilepsy, including laser interstitial thermal ablation. We feel the extensive discussion of cutting-edge research will strongly influence the practice in clinicians managing childhood epilepsy.



