LGS IN CHILDHOOD

Diagnosis is typically based on 3 things—known as the “triad”:

1. Multiple seizure types, including atonic seizures, also called “drop seizures”
2. Slowed development—delays in intellectual and physical motor skills
3. Abnormal electroencephalogram (EEG) or brain wave pattern called a slow spike-wave pattern

LGS IN ADULTHOOD

Triad of features seen during childhood evolves as each individual transitions into adulthood:

Change in seizure type and frequency

- Over time, seizure type and frequency can change
- “Drop seizures” usually become less frequent and may disappear
- Tonic seizures tend to persist, especially during sleep

Change in cognitive development and behavior

- Over time, there is a general slowing of intellectual function
- Adults with LGS may experience complex behavioral problems ranging from autistic features to aggressiveness

Change in EEG

- By adulthood, 50% to 70% of people no longer have the slow spike-wave pattern EEG that is typically used to diagnose the syndrome

SALES AND SYMPTOMS

1. Multiple seizure types, including atonic seizures, also called “drop seizures”
2. Slowed development—delays in intellectual and physical motor skills
3. Abnormal electroencephalogram (EEG) or brain wave pattern called a slow spike-wave pattern

WHY HAVEN’T WE HEARD ABOUT THIS?

LGS was first described in the late 1950s and early 1960s. Before 1989, children would likely not have been diagnosed with LGS because it was not yet recognized as a syndrome.

WHY THE DIAGNOSIS MATTERS

IF YOUR LOVED ONE’S EPILEPSY IS LGS, A PROPER DIAGNOSIS CAN HELP YOU:

- Find the answers you need and new sources of ongoing support
- Connect with a special community of families living with LGS and the knowledgeable professionals who care for them
- "Parents who have children with disabilities are a great source of strength for one another because they have that shared experience."
- "A diagnosis of LGS was finally able to bring the signs and symptoms and all of it. Now we better understand why she’s having these problems.

TALK TO YOUR DOCTOR

ABOUT YOUR LOVED ONE’S MEDICAL HISTORY, IF LGS IS THE UNDERLYING DIAGNOSIS, OPTIONS DO EXIST.

Learn more at:
LGSFoundation.org  •  LGSTogether.com  •  Epilepsy.com  •  Facebook.com/LGSTogether

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WHAT IS EPILEPSY?
Epilepsy is a medical condition in which a person has had two or more unprovoked seizures. There are many types of epilepsy, each with different causes and symptoms.

As you begin your LGS journey, there is a lot to learn. Caregivers have shared that while they felt overwhelmed and alone in the beginning, they soon realized an LGS diagnosis can bring new opportunities for answers, support, and seizure management options.

NAVIGATING LENNOX-GASTAUT SYNDROME (LGS)

LGS: A RARE DISORDER
LGS can be challenging to diagnose because it varies from person to person and everyone’s journey is different.

LGS characteristics

- Multiple types of seizures
- Slow development—delays in mental and/or physical motor skills
- An abnormal electroencephalogram (EEG) or brain wave pattern

A unique journey from childhood to adulthood

- 80% of children diagnosed with LGS will continue having seizures into their adult years
- 2-8 years old

Find strength and support from each other

- The mean of LGS is 30 years
- Known causes include: • Genetic disorders • Brain injury or infections • Trauma before or during birth
- Children have a prior history of infantile spasms
- 1 out of 5 children have a prior history of infantile spasms

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE
Tap into LGS resources and get connected with a supportive community.

“When we first connected with another family with LGS, we started asking questions, sharing stories, more awareness—more understanding.”

“We decided to take control of the chaos, not let it control us. We continue to talk with our doctor and it has really helped us along the way. It’s the best thing we’ve ever done.”

“Look to the stars with your loved one and say ‘I love you’—and then do it all over again.”

Get started on your journey by learning about LGS and what you can expect over time.