

ADULTS

WITH CHILDHOOD-ONSET EPILEPSY

COULD IT BE LENNOX-GASTAUT SYNDROME (LGS)?

Seizures and symptoms typically associated with LGS in childhood change over time; therefore, LGS in adults can be hard to recognize.¹

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

LGS IN CHILDHOOD

Diagnosis is typically based on 3 things—known as the “triad”^{2,3}:

1 Multiple seizure types, including those that can cause “drop attacks”

2 Slowed development—delays in intellectual ability and/or physical motor skills

3 An abnormal electroencephalogram (EEG) or brain wave pattern called a slow spike-wave pattern



LGS IN ADULTHOOD

Triad of features seen during childhood evolve as each individual transitions into adulthood.¹

Change in seizure type and frequency

- Over time, seizure type and frequency can change¹
- “Drop seizures” usually become less frequent and may disappear^{4,6}
- Tonic seizures tend to persist, especially during sleep¹

Changes in cognitive development and behavior⁷

- Over time there is a general slowing of intellectual function⁸
- Adults with LGS may experience complex behavioral problems ranging from autistic features to aggressiveness⁴

Changes in EEG

- By adulthood, 50% to 70% of people no longer have the slow spike-wave pattern EEG typically used to diagnose the syndrome^{4,9}



A MISSED DIAGNOSIS—EVEN IN CHILDHOOD

Even when the triad presents at a young age, it may not be diagnosed as LGS, but instead labeled as difficult-to-control epilepsy. It's not uncommon for a person to live with LGS for many years before being accurately diagnosed with LGS.



WHY HAVEN'T WE HEARD ABOUT THIS?

LGS was first described in the late 1950's and early 1960's—before 1989, children would likely not have been diagnosed with LGS because it was not yet recognized as a syndrome.⁷

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 on-going support

Connect with a special community of families living with LGS and the knowledgeable professionals who care for them



“With a diagnosis of LGS, we were finally able to look at the signs and symptoms and it all clicked. Now we better understand why she's having these problems.”

— Mark, father of adult daughter Micaela

“Parents who have children with disabilities are a great source of strength for one another because they have that shared experience.”

— Jennifer, mother of teenage son Theo



TALK TO YOUR DOCTOR

ABOUT YOUR LOVED ONE'S MEDICAL HISTORY.

LGS COULD BE THE UNDERLYING DIAGNOSIS, AND OPTIONS DO EXIST.

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