



Questions For Your Doctor



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The Cameron Boyce Foundation**



Questions to Ask Your Doctor

Questions to ask your doctor when you have been diagnosed with epilepsy:

1. Are you the right person to be talking to or should I see an epileptologist (an epileptologist is a type of neurologist that focuses exclusively on epilepsy)?
2. What is likely causing the seizures?
3. What is my exact diagnosis? What type of epilepsy do I have?
4. What types of tests do I need, and would more testing help? Do I need an EEG or brain MRI?
5. What are the initial treatment options?
6. At what time do I take medications and does this matter?
7. What side effects are expected with treatment and can they be managed?
8. What should I do if I have another seizure?
9. What should prompt a phone call between visits?
10. Is it safe to drive, swim or drink alcohol? Are there other safety precautions?
11. What are other treatment choices, such as brain surgery or device placement? Am I a candidate for these?
12. Can I be referred to a level 4 Epilepsy Center?
13. What are nocturnal seizures? Do I have these?
14. What is SUDEP (sudden unexpected death in epilepsy patients) and should I be aware of this? What is status epilepticus?
15. What types of devices exist that can alert a caregiver when seizure activity occurs? Are these helpful in my case?

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