

My Child's **Epilepsy** Care Team



Many people work together to manage your child's epilepsy. Who becomes part of your child's Epilepsy Care Team will depend on the needs of your child and family.

We describe below who may be part of your child's Epilepsy Care Team. Not everyone will need to see all of these team members. Check off who is a member of your child's Epilepsy Care Team and write down their names.

Neurologist

A doctor who has had extra training in the care of patients with neurological (brain and nervous system) problems. An Epileptologist is a neurologist who has had extra training in epilepsy care and has a special focus on the care of patients who have seizures. The neurologist is responsible for the medical care of your child's epilepsy.

My child's neurologist is

Dr. _____

Primary Care Doctor

A doctor who is responsible for your child's overall medical care and is usually a paediatrician or a family doctor. The neurologist or NP will share information about your child's epilepsy care with your child's primary care doctor. The neurologist or NP may also ask this doctor to arrange certain tests or work with the Epilepsy Team to manage your child's care.

My child's primary care doctor is

Dr. _____



Nurse Practitioner (NP)

A nurse who has extra education and training in providing some aspects of medical care to children such as diagnosing, ordering tests and prescribing medications. A NP may assess your child and work with your child's neurologist to provide medical care in the clinic or in the Epilepsy Monitoring Unit (EMU). The NP may also be your main contact regarding the care of your child's epilepsy.

My child's NP is

Neuropsychologist

A psychologist who assesses brain function. Neuropsychologists use a variety of tests to assess cognitive abilities such as speed of information processing, attention, memory, language and problem solving. They may recommend special strategies for dealing with learning difficulties. Your child may be referred to a neuropsychologist if they have learning problems associated with epilepsy or are being considered for epilepsy surgery.

My child's neuropsychologist is

Dr. _____

Epilepsy Clinic Nurse

A Registered Nurse who has special knowledge in providing care to children with epilepsy and their families. The nurse may assess your child's needs, help you find answers to your questions, teach you about the special care your child may need, and help you get the support you need. This nurse may also be your main contact when you have new concerns about your child's epilepsy.

My child's epilepsy clinic nurse is



Dietitian

If your child is prescribed the ketogenic diet to treat epilepsy, a dietitian will work with you and the epilepsy care team to develop a special diet plan, monitor how the plan is working and change it as necessary. The dietitian will help you learn about the type and amount of food your child must eat to treat their epilepsy.

My child's dietitian is

Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)

A nurse with extra education who teaches families about epilepsy care and resources, and works with other members of the epilepsy care team to ensure your child gets the services that are needed and you get the support you need to manage your child's epilepsy. The CNS may be your main contact when you have new concerns about your child's epilepsy.

My CNS is



Pharmacist

Pharmacists prepare and dispense the medicines used to treat your child's epilepsy. They also educate you about the medicines prescribed by your child's neurologist such as how to give it, when to give it, how to store it, possible side effects and whether any foods or other medicines can affect how well the medicine works.

My child's pharmacist is

Social Worker

A social worker can help you cope with difficulties that may arise as you learn to manage caring for a child with epilepsy. They provide counseling and support for your child and family. Social workers can also put you in touch with community resources to help support you at home.

My social worker is



Psychiatrist

A doctor who has had extra training on how to treat mental health concerns. Your child may be referred to a psychiatrist if he or she is having problems with depression, anxiety or behaviour that is difficult to manage that may be related to having epilepsy. Psychiatrists offer therapy and medications to manage mental health concerns.

My child's psychiatrist is

Dr. _____

Neurosurgeon

A doctor who has special training on how to do surgery on the brain and nervous system. Your child will be referred to a neurosurgeon if they are being considered for epilepsy surgery or insertion of a vagus nerve stimulator.

My child's neurosurgeon is

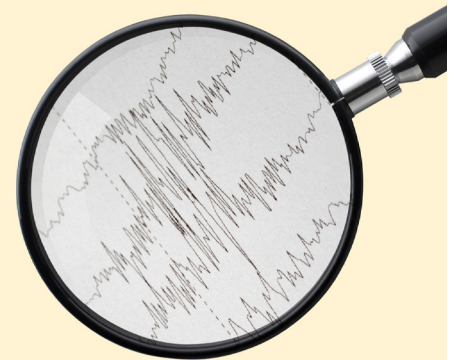
Dr. _____



Other people who are part of the Epilepsy Care Team are:

Epilepsy Fellows

Doctors who are trained neurologists and have come to SickKids to learn more about epilepsy care in children. They often work with your child's neurologist in assessing your child and developing a medical plan of care. You may meet them in the clinic or in the Epilepsy Monitoring Unit.



EEG Technologists

The technologists use the electroencephalogram (EEG) machine to record electrical activity of the brain. They will work with you and your child to make sure they get the best possible EEG recording. If your child is not able to cooperate with having the EEG leads attached to the head then a nurse may give medication to your child to help them sleep. This is called sedation. The nurse will make sure it is safe to give the medication and watch your child closely if sedation is given.

Epilepsy Program Information Coordinator

The information coordinator arranges admissions to the Epilepsy Monitoring Unit and coordinates the tests needed when a child is being considered for epilepsy surgery.



Developed by the SickKids Comprehensive Epilepsy Program

Photography is being used for illustrative purposes only and any person depicted in the Content is a model.