

Epilepsy Families Southeast Wisconsin

10345 N. Port Washington Rd., Ste. 175

Mequon, Wisconsin 53092

www.efsewi.org

(414) 271-0110



June NEWSLETTER

Upcoming Events—2026

Art Therapy:

Saturday, June 13 (1-3 pm)

Saturday, June 27 (1-3 pm)

Equine Therapy:

Saturday, June 6 (9-10:30 am)

Tuesday, June 16 (5-6:30 pm)

Update Dinners:

Saturday, August 29

Tuesday, November 17

24th Annual Brainstorm Walk/Run:

Sunday, June 28

Purple Picnic:

Saturday, September 12

WE'VE MOVED!

Our new address is

10345 N. Port Washington Rd., Ste. 175

Mequon, WI 53092



Everyone enjoyed the Update Dinner on May 28. Hope to see you at the next one on August 29.

Epilepsy News

Treatment of Rare Childhood Epilepsy Could Begin Before Birth

A new study suggests treatment of epilepsy could start during pregnancy—as early as 15 weeks gestation—well before symptoms appear, highlighting the potential benefit of treating certain epilepsy disorders as early as possible. The study reveals for the first time how a novel RNA-based treatment affects brain cell signaling when applied at early stages of development in a rare, severe and treatment-resistant form of epilepsy caused by changes in a gene called KCNT1. If given very early—possibly even in utero, or for preterm infants—the treatment may help protect the developing brain from hyper-excitation, a means to reduce long-term neurological harm. “The brain is an amazingly plastic structure,” Richard Smith said. “If we miss a therapeutic window, it becomes much harder to reverse the damage later as we manage symptoms in patients.”

From website <https://news.northwestern.edu/stories/2026/4/treatment-of-rare-childhood-epilepsy-could-begin-before-birth> accessed on May 22, 2026.

The Brain Has a Warning System For Its Own Electrical Misfires, and We Can Now Read It

Every second of the day, in roughly half of the 50 million people living with epilepsy, the brain stages tiny rebellions. Not seizures, exactly, but something almost as disruptive: brief electrical storms that flare and die so fast most patients never consciously notice them. These millisecond glitches, known as interictal epileptiform discharges (IED), can fire thousands of times in a single day. For years, neurologists assumed they were essentially random, noise in a faulty system. A new study suggests they are anything but. Using an ultra-thin recording device called a Neuropixels probe, investigators were able to monitor the activity of individual neurons in living human brain tissue with unprecedented precision. The study revealed that IEDs do not arise from a sudden burst of synchronized activity. Instead, they develop through a highly organized sequence. One population of neurons showed changes in activity nearly one second before a discharge became visible on standard brain recordings. Importantly, the findings may have implications for future epilepsy treatments. By identifying neuronal patterns that appear up to a second before an abnormal discharge occurs, the study raises the possibility that future devices could predict and prevent abnormal brain activity before it disrupts cognition or develops into a seizure.

From website <https://scienceblog.com/the-brain-has-a-warning-system-for-its-own-electrical-misfires-and-we-can-now-read-it/> accessed on May 22, 2026.