



*Epilepsy is a relatively common condition affecting about 1% of the population with 125,000 new diagnoses made annually in the United States alone.*



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# SEIZURE DISORDERS



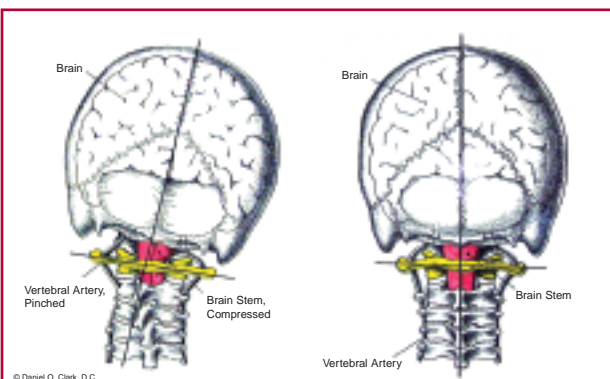
## Seizure Disorders & Epilepsy

Epilepsy is a relatively common condition affecting about 1% of the population with 125,000 new diagnoses made annually in the United States alone. Nearly 2.5 million Americans have epilepsy, and about 9% of the general population will have at least one seizure during their lives. Symptoms may include convulsions, staring, muscle spasms, odd feelings, or episodes of impaired consciousness. Seizures that occur more than once are called epilepsy.

### What Causes Seizures & Epilepsy?

Epilepsy occurs as a result of abnormal electrical activity within the brain. Brain cells communicate by sending electrical signals in an orderly pattern. In epilepsy, these electrical signals become abnormal, giving rise to an "electrical storm" that produces seizures.

The cause of epilepsy and seizure disorders is poorly understood by the healthcare community, yet researchers continue to focus on trauma as a key player for many individuals. Regardless of age, an injury to the head or trauma to the neck and/or upper back can play a key role in the development of seizures. In certain pediatric cases, the injury may occur during the birthing process. After an injury, seizures may begin immediately or, in some cases, take months or years to develop.



Misaligned

Aligned

## Common Medical Treatments For Seizure Disorders & Epilepsy

According to the *Physician's Desk Reference*, the traditional drugs used to treat seizure disorders and epilepsy are associated with many adverse side effects; a number of them are potentially dangerous.

A study published by the *American Family Physician* states that many of the drugs used to treat seizures and epilepsy fail to adequately control seizures, and 25 to 40% of patients with epilepsy continue to have seizures despite treatment with traditional antiepileptic drugs. Up to 61% of patients with seizures report having side effects with antiepileptic drugs. Newer antiepileptic drugs may be more effective, but their potential for serious side effects requires careful consideration of the risks versus benefits.

### Upper Cervical Injuries, Seizures & Epilepsy

Without constant nerve signals from the brain stem into the cerebrum, the brain becomes useless. This can be a critical factor in the development of seizure disorders. Misalignments in the upper cervical spine (neck) can affect the function of the brain stem and trigger an "electrical storm" within the brain that could develop into seizures.

Upper cervical care is a non-invasive form of healthcare that attempts to correct the trauma and nerve irritation to the nervous system and brain stem. Many of the patients at *Upper Cervical Health Centers of America* recall a specific injury, which triggered the onset of their seizures, others do not. Whether or not trauma is a factor, it is important to be checked by an upper cervical doctor who can determine if a neurological problem in the upper neck could contribute to the seizures.

## Upper Cervical Care & Seizures

*Upper Cervical Health Centers of America* is a network of Upper Cervical Doctors of Chiropractic located throughout the United States who have extensive training and education in the brain stem and upper cervical spine. These doctors have dedicated their professional lives to helping patients with pain, sickness and disease.

Many case studies have been published which document the benefits of chiropractic care and seizure disorders. Children and adults alike have shown a decrease in the frequency and severity of their seizures with upper cervical care while some have completely recovered!

If you suffer from seizures or epilepsy and would like to seek the help of an *Upper Cervical Health Centers of America* doctor, call the number on the back of this pamphlet. You can also visit our website at [www.UpperCervicalCare.com](http://www.UpperCervicalCare.com) to find an office in your area.

Upper cervical care has "given life back" to countless patients with seizure disorders. Your *Upper Cervical Health Centers of America* doctor knows how to develop a program specific to your needs. Most health insurance companies recognize the benefits of upper cervical care and include it among the treatments they cover.

Get Your Life Back!



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