Who We Are

Epilepsy is a brain disorder that causes people to have recurring seizures. The seizures happen when clusters of nerve cells, or neurons, in the brain send out the wrong signals. People may have strange sensations and emotions or behave strangely. They may have violent muscle spasms or lose consciousness. Epilepsy has many possible causes, including illness, brain injury and abnormal brain development. In many cases, the cause is unknown.

The Epilepsy Clinic at Kennedy Krieger Institute provides individualized care for children with epilepsy and seizure disorders from a team of specialists through evaluation, testing, treatment and counseling. We offer the most advanced neuroimaging testing available, including electroencephalogram (EEG) testing and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). Our team works to provide a diagnosis that leads to a personalized treatment plan for each child.

Who We Serve

We evaluate and treat infants, children and adolescents of all ages and cognitive abilities. While some of our patients have mild neurological disorders, many have more pervasive disabilities, including autism spectrum disorder, cerebral palsy and intellectual disability, and as a result, have a higher risk for epilepsy. Our clinicians are particularly experienced in managing and treating chronic and severe disabilities in children.

Our Team

Our interdisciplinary team consists of physicians, nurses, genetic counselors, researchers, neuropsychologists and other professionals with a range of specialties, including:

- Child neurology
- Cognitive and behavioral neurology
- Medical genetics
- Neurodevelopmental disabilities
- Neurogenetics
- Pediatrics
- Sleep medicine

As part of our comprehensive care model, our team collaborates closely with other specialists—including endocrinologists, speech-language pathologists, psychiatrists, neuropsychologists, psychologists, physical and occupational therapists, and pediatric rehabilitation medicine specialists—for optimal care for each patient. Our highly specialized, interdisciplinary care is unique among epilepsy programs for children, and ensures the very best outcomes possible.
Our Treatment Approach

The Epilepsy Clinic’s unique, interdisciplinary care allows patients to benefit from a full spectrum of services. We are one of the few programs in the country offering such a depth and breadth of pediatric services, including treatments designed specifically for children with comorbidities or severe disabilities.

Because epilepsy is a complex condition, an accurate diagnosis is critical. Before developing an individualized treatment plan, we perform a thorough neurological assessment for each child or adolescent. This includes a medical and seizure history, a neurogenetics evaluation, and diagnostic tests such as EEG or MRI. With an accurate diagnosis, our team will determine which therapeutic options are likely to be the most effective.

Expertise in Diagnostic Testing

We are one of the few centers in the region that provide outpatient overnight video EEGs as well as sleep studies (PSG) combined with video EEGs. Our technologists have extensive experience in working with children with disabilities, and take pride in working with families to ensure studies are recorded properly. As a result, we have a high rate of success in recording EEGs, even for children who have behavioral challenges.

Our physicians are board-certified in pediatrics, child neurology, neurodevelopmental disabilities, sleep medicine and clinical neurophysiology. They will work with your child’s referring doctor to get the most information out of the testing appointment, so that your child’s doctor, and you, can make the most informed decisions possible.