## **GENETICS AND LGS**



## Half of all seizure disorders that eventually evolve into LGS are genetic. Find out if yours is.

## Why Is Genetic Testing in LGS Important?

For everyone with LGS, the LGS is secondary to some initial cause (etiology) of early-life seizures (e.g., LGS secondary to CDKL5 mutations). In half of LGS cases, the cause of seizures is genetic. Genetic testing may:

- Help identify the cause of a person's seizures that evolved into LGS.
- Lead to more information about the diagnosis and long-term outcome for the person with LGS.
- Help guide the selection of anti-seizure medications. For example, there is evidence that some medications may work better to control seizures in people with a genetic diagnosis. There is also evidence that some medications may not work well or may cause side effects in people with certain genetic disorders.
- Help better inform other family members of their own risk of epilepsy, as well as their chances of having a child with epilepsy.
- Make it possible for individuals and families to access other resources such as medications, gene therapy, special support services, etc.
- Lead to participation in research studies specific to genetic diagnosis.
- Help an individual or family end what is often referred to as the "diagnostic odyssey" or the search for an answer to what caused the seizures to start.

Note: We do not know what causes seizures in LGS, but the LGS Foundation is dedicated to advancing research to understand this!



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