Why Is Genetic Testing in LGS Important?

For everyone with LGS, the LGS is secondary to some initial cause (etiolo-gy) 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!

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

The current landscape of epilepsy genetics
(Ruggiero, Xian, and Helbig; 2023)

Learn About Genetic Testing in LGS

What You Need to Know About Genetic Testing*

Considering Genetic Testing? Start here.*

Your Health Starts in Your Genes*

None of the information herein constitutes medical advice, diagnosis, treatment, or recommendation. Always seek the advice of your doctor, or other qualified health professional, with any questions about or related to a medical condition.

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