



THE TOP 10 PRIORITIES FOR

EPILEPSY RESEARCH



The Ontario Brain Institute (OBI) is thinking differently about the way we do research.

As a result, OBI, in partnership with EpLink (epilepsy research program) and the James Lind Alliance have come together to organize a Priority Setting Partnership (PSP) on epilepsy research.

By bringing together patients, caregivers and health care providers the PSP helped identify and prioritize the top 10 unanswered questions around treatment and care. These priorities will be presented to researchers, funders and policy makers to shape the future of epilepsy research in Canada.

1 Can genetic markers be used to diagnose and treat epilepsy and seizure disorders?

2 What are the impacts of long-term use of anti-seizure drugs, the causes of the side effects of these treatments and how can we prevent the side effects?

3 What are the long-term impacts of seizures on a person's brain, and overall health and development?

4 How can the risk of SUDEP (Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy) be reduced in people with epilepsy?

5 What is the most effective testing protocol for determining causes of seizures and/or a diagnosis of epilepsy or other seizure disorders and to reduce time to diagnosis?

6 What are the brain changes, on a cellular level, that lead to seizure development?

7 How effective is surgical treatment for adults and children who experience seizures/epilepsy?

8 What causes memory problems associated with seizures? Can these memory problems improve over time and what are the best treatment options for memory loss in people who experience seizures?

9 Aside from anti-seizure drugs and some brain lesions, what causes behavioural changes in people who experience seizures? What is the best way to treat behavioural issues?

10 What is the efficacy (i.e. the effectiveness of reducing seizures) of adding a second anti-seizure medication compared to changing to a different anti-seizure medication? How can we determine which combinations of anti-seizure drugs are effective?

Visit <https://braininstitute.ca/epilepsy-psp> to learn more.

