

EDITORIAL BY DR. MARK SPITZ: EPILEPSY IN THE ELDERLY

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They are our grandparents, our parents, neighbors and friends. They are Seniors-and they are at high risk for not just diseases like Alzheimer's, heart disease and stroke, but for a more chronic and potentially more harmful disease-epilepsy. According to the United States Census Bureau, "There is a projected percentage increase in the 65-and-over population between 2000 and 2050 of 147 percent. By comparison, the population as a whole would have increased by only 49 percent over the same period." (1) What does this percentage increase mean? It means that as our life expectancy rate increases so too do the health risks we will face such as epilepsy. Until recently, epilepsy was believed to be predominantly a childhood disorder. Research now shows that the incidence of epilepsy in people age 75 and over is higher than in the first ten years of life. In fact, statistics have illustrated that approximately 7% of seniors have epilepsy.

To read the full editorial please go to:

http://professionals.epilepsy.com/page/ar_1110476473.html



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SEIZURE EMERGENCIES WEIGHING YOUR TREATMENT OPTIONS

Rectal Diastat is the best known treatment for acute repetitive seizures (bout or cluster of seizures with retention of consciousness in between seizures). Yet, there are other "off-label" medications under discussion and being researched for the treatment of acute repetitive seizures. One of those off-label medications is intranasal midazolam.

To read the full article please go to:

http://professionals.epilepsy.com/page/ar_1109770381.html

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