

GREETINGS FROM OUR EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Baseball, tax returns, and the Boston Marathon – sure signs of spring along with tulips, daffodils and cherry blossoms. This time of year the world seems fresh with possibilities. At epilepsy.com, we see possibilities too. Possibilities that people with newly-diagnosed and medication-resistant epilepsy and their families will be empowered with information and hope. With your help we're getting there. Nearly 200,000 people are now reading nearly 1,000,000 pages on epilepsy.com and epilepsy.com/professional each month. We've come far, but really have only just begun. Thanks for your support, and for telling your patients to make our site their online home away from home.

Steven C. Schachter, MD
Editor-in-Chief

NEWS YOU CAN USE**FDA ISSUES ACUDIAL DIASTAT ADVISORY LETTERS**

Valeant Pharmaceuticals recently introduced new dosing versions of Diastat, marketed as Diastat AcuDial. Diastat AcuDial is indicated for rectal administration in the management of patients with refractory epilepsy, on stable regimens of anti-epileptic drugs, who require intermittent use of diazepam to control bouts of increased seizure activity. The product is packaged as twin packs (two syringes in a package), with adjustable dosages set and locked by the pharmacist. Valeant Pharmaceuticals has received complaints of cracks at the base of the plastic tip for both the 10 mg and 20 mg product twin-packs. They are now advising doctors, pharmacists, and caregivers that small cracks have been found at the base of some of the plastic AcuDial applicators. Below are links to all three advisory letters issued by Valeant Pharmaceuticals.

- [AcuDial Pharmacist Letter](#)
- [AcuDial Physician Letter](#)
- [AcuDial Caregiver Letter](#)

SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN EPILEPSY: WHAT CORONERS AND MEDICAL EXAMINERS AREN'T SAYING

Traditionally a controversial topic discussed primarily by the neurological community, sudden unexplained death in epilepsy (SUDEP) is now emerging more frequently in research literature, adding weight and validity to this once questionable entity. However, the forensic science field has quite a ways to go before it both recognizes and utilizes SUDEP as a final post mortem diagnosis in cases where it is appropriate.

To read more go to: http://professionals.epilepsy.com/page/ar_1145531983.html

CULTIVATING COMPASSION: ONE**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

Upcoming epilepsy-related conferences, symposiums and events include:

May 11, 2006

[Epilepsy Foundation Gala](#)

The Lighthouse, Chelsea Piers, New York City

June 11-June 16, 2006

[10th International Child Neurology Congress](#)

Montreal, Canada

June 15-June 17, 2006

[1st Annual American Epilepsy Society Mid-Year Meeting](#)

DOCTOR'S JOURNEY

Karen was 17 when she first came to the clinic. Because of a prolonged febrile seizure she had experienced in childhood, complex partial seizures developed that began with an epigastric sensation and then progressed to oral automatisms and a prolonged postictal state. Her seizures went back as far as she could remember.

To read more go to: http://professionals.epilepsy.com/page/ps_1098903653.html

CLINICAL TRIAL INTEREST SKY ROCKETS!

March was a record-breaking month for Epilepsy.com as visits to the clinical trial section increased by 39%. We believe this is because patients realize the tremendous role clinical trials play in driving the discovery of effective therapies for epilepsy. And now, you can help. By telling patients about clinical trials and directing them to epilepsy.com, you are giving them the chance to advance new treatments in epilepsy, as well as empowering them to actively manage their epilepsy. If you are a clinical trial investigator, we encourage you to list your IRB-approved clinical trial. It's simple, and it's free. Just click here: http://professionals.epilepsy.com/clinical/clinical_trials.php

STAY TUNED

- Feature articles from AAN 2006
- Clinical Practice Tools:
 - Drug Interaction Sheets for You
 - Downloadable AED Sheets for Your Patients
- Ring-Chromosome-20 Information

Oak Brook, Illinois

July 02-July 06, 2006

[7th European Congress on Epileptology](#)
Helsinki, Finland

July 13-July 16, 2006

[Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance National Conference](#)
Bloomingdale, IL

July 26-July 29, 2006

[International Neuropsychological Society Mid-Year Meeting](#)
Zurich, Switzerland

July 27-July 30, 2006

[6th Asian & Oceanian Epilepsy Congress](#)
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

July 28-August 08, 2006

[5th International Course on Epilepsy: Surgically Remediable Epilepsies](#)
Venice International University, San Servolo, Venice, Italy

ABOUT THE EPILEPSY THERAPY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT



for people living with epilepsy.

The Epilepsy Therapy Development Project is also the sponsor of epilepsy.com and epilepsy.com/professionals. We are working to build epilepsy.com/professionals into the most comprehensive source of information, tools and interchange available online for patients, practicing neurologists, and for the research and therapy development community.

The [Epilepsy Therapy Development Project](#) is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit corporation. The organization was founded by three fathers of young children with epilepsy, along with their children's doctor, a leading researcher and clinician in the field of epilepsy. Our mission is to advance new treatments

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Epilepsy.com/professionals is building a resource section of useful practice tools for the professional community. If you have a form, patient information sheet, or other useful handout for patients with epilepsy, and you'd like to share it with thousands of your colleagues by adding it to the resource section of epilepsy.com/professionals, please email it to jenna@epilepsytdp.org or fax it to (703) 437-4288, and we'll take it from there. Thanks!!

To learn more about our programs, please visit [The Epilepsy Therapy Development Project](#). You can help us reach our goals and continue support of epilepsy.com with your [donations](#).

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This email was sent by: **Epilepsy Therapy Development Project**
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