

## GREETINGS FROM OUR EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

US Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts was hospitalized July 30 after reportedly having a seizure. Press reports state he also had a seizure 14 years ago. Everyone at *epilepsy.com* and its parent organization, The Epilepsy Therapy Development Project, would like to wish Chief Justice Roberts a speedy recovery. See our News Flash on [www.epilepsy.com](http://www.epilepsy.com).



For clinical and scientific investigators, August can be a promising month. We have exciting announcements, opportunities, and new features to help you in your daily practice.

### Announcing New Award Opportunities – Proposals Due September 1

New grant opportunities are being made available through the Epilepsy Research Foundation's New Therapy Grants Program. These will be awarded to scientific and clinical investigators pursuing innovative projects that demonstrate a clear path to commercialization.

In addition, the Milken Family Foundation is requesting proposals for its Translational Research Award program, which is designed to advance the development of novel therapies for the treatment of epilepsy. To view the request for proposals and to apply, please visit [www.epilepsyproject.org/grants](http://www.epilepsyproject.org/grants).

### Awarding Innovation

The Epilepsy Research Foundation, committed to finding a cure for persons with epilepsy, has announced three translational research awards, [http://professionals.epilepsy.com/page/ar\\_1185892036.html](http://professionals.epilepsy.com/page/ar_1185892036.html), which went to:

- Robert E. Gross, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor, Departments of Neurosurgery and Neurology, Emory University School of Medicine, and Steve M. Potter, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Biomedical Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology and Emory University.
- James C. Cloyd, PharmD, Professor and Director, Epilepsy Research and Education Program, University of Minnesota.
- Gregory A. Worrell, MD, PhD, Associate Professor of Neurology, Mayo Clinic.

**Webcast from NeuroTechnology Series** – To hear Steven C. Schachter, MD, and others you can go to the webcast, supported by Epilepsy TDP, from the CIMIT Summer Education Series. <http://www.cimit.org/forum/summerseries07.17.07.htm>

### Hallway Conversations: Pregnancy

What if you are referred a woman with newly diagnosed partial epilepsy, not yet started on medication, who tells you that she plans to start a family in the next few months? We asked two experts: Page Pennell, MD, from Emory University and Andre Lagrange, MD, PhD, from Vanderbilt University. Do you agree? [http://professionals.epilepsy.com/page/hallway\\_pregnancy.html](http://professionals.epilepsy.com/page/hallway_pregnancy.html)

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Upcoming epilepsy-related conferences, symposia and events include:

### September 02-09, 2007

**2nd Eilat International Educational Course**  
Israel

### November 02-04, 2007

**50th anniversary of the seminal study on "Syndrome of Acquired Aphasia with Convulsive Disorder in Children"**  
Alden-Biesen, Belgium

### November 03, 2007

**Advances in Tuberous Sclerosis: From Pathway to Therapy**  
Sydney, Australia.

## Challenging Cases

“Left Arm and Leg Shaking in a Patient with a History of Treated Syphilis” by Daniel J. Brotman, MD, Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions (JHMI) and Majid Fotuhi, MD, PhD, Director of the Center for Memory and Brain Health at Sinai Hospital and assistant professor of neurology at JHMI. Read how this case altered their approach to care and treatment of their epilepsy patients. [http://professionals.epilepsy.com/page/case\\_7.html](http://professionals.epilepsy.com/page/case_7.html)

## Resources for Your Patients:

**Traveling Safely: Seizure Preparedness** – From our new online section, **Seizure Preparedness**, this tells how to reduce the chances of an emergency and be prepared just in case. [http://epilepsy.com/epilepsy/adapting\\_plans\\_for\\_travel.html](http://epilepsy.com/epilepsy/adapting_plans_for_travel.html)

**Sleeping Peacefully:** Carl W. Bazil, MD, PhD, has written a chapter on sleep for a forthcoming book. We have adapted a “Sleeping Well” chart that can be helpful to your patients. [http://professionals.epilepsy.com/page/ar\\_1185825166.html](http://professionals.epilepsy.com/page/ar_1185825166.html)

**Eating Ketogenically:** The MCT diet is an adaptation of the ketogenic diet, often used in England and Canada. For patients who may benefit from the ketogenic diet but are looking for more palatable foods, the MCT diet might be a good alternative. [http://epilepsy.com/epilepsy/keto\\_news\\_august07.html](http://epilepsy.com/epilepsy/keto_news_august07.html)

**Clinical Trials:** Participation in clinical trials offers the potential for new treatment options and allows patients to participate with researchers in driving the discovery of effective therapies for epilepsy. If you wish to suggest that a patient participate in a clinical trial, we provide an integrated listing of ongoing clinical trials and information on *epilepsy.com* at [http://www.epilepsy.com/clinical/clinical\\_trials.php](http://www.epilepsy.com/clinical/clinical_trials.php).

Additionally we encourage patients to contact the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke in Bethesda, Maryland, pharmaceutical, biotech, and medical device companies, as well as universities. Also, if you wish to list a clinical trial on our site, please contact us.

## Coming Feature:

- **Traumatic Brain Injury** -- We are following the stories about soldiers, legislation, and traumatic brain injury and will be presenting views on Operation Giveback in an interview with Marc Dichter, MD. **Operation Giveback** is a collaborative project to help returning soldiers at risk for epilepsy. Dr. Dichter, of the University of Pennsylvania Medical School, is spearheading the project.

Enjoy the last month of summer and please contact us for articles you wish to see added to our site.

Sincerely,


**Steven C. Schachter, MD**  
**Editor-in-Chief**



### The Epilepsy Electronic Textbook

This electronic textbook is designed for medical students; neurology, neurosurgery, internal medicine and pediatric residents; and nursing students. It pertains to all facets of seizures and epilepsy. The book was designed as a perpetual textbook that can easily be updated as new therapies and diagnostic strategies for the management of this condition evolves. The text is organized into four sections. Each section consists of PDF text along with PowerPoint slides so that they can be easily downloaded for use in lectures or other medical educational activities. There is also a section of clinical cases to generate discussion of case management. Go to [www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/bv.fcgi?rid=epilepsy](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/bv.fcgi?rid=epilepsy)

## WE NEED YOUR HELP

 /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](http://epilepsy.com/professionals), please email it to [rita@epilepsytdp.org](mailto:rita@epilepsytdp.org) or fax it to (703) 437-4288, and we'll take it from there. Thanks!!

## ABOUT THE EPILEPSY THERAPY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT



The [Epilepsy Therapy Development Project](http://epilepsytdp.org) is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit corporation. The organization was founded by parents 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 for people living with epilepsy.

The Epilepsy Therapy Development Project is also the sponsor of [epilepsy.com](http://epilepsy.com) and [epilepsy.com/professionals](http://epilepsy.com/professionals). We are working to build [epilepsy.com/professionals](http://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.

To learn more about our programs, please visit our website: [www.epilepsytdp.org](http://www.epilepsytdp.org). To make a difference, we need your ongoing support and contributions. Help us to extend our mission of advancing new therapies for people living with epilepsy. For more information on how you can donate, please visit:

[www.epilepsytdp.org/sec/contribute](http://www.epilepsytdp.org/sec/contribute).