

GREETINGS FROM OUR EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



The Epilepsy Research Foundation, of which The Epilepsy Therapy Development Project (Epilepsy TDP) is a member, will be announcing awards to distinguished physicians and researchers this week. The Epilepsy TDP supports the development and commercialization of new therapies through direct grants and investments in promising academic and commercial projects. Watch for our press release about the recipients and their projects.

An RFP due September 1, 2007: A new request for translational research proposals in the field of epilepsy has been announced by The Epilepsy Research Foundation (ERF). The ERF is selectively providing grants to scientific and clinical investigators pursuing innovative, high impact projects that demonstrate a clear path to commercialization from the lab to the patient. To view the grant proposal requirements please visit: http://www.epilepsytdp.org/sec/available_grants. For more information, please contact david@epilepsytdp.org.

In other news, we present:

Hallway Conversations: Rufinamide – We asked two experts their opinions about the drug that has been approved in Europe as add-on therapy for Lennox-Gastaut syndrome. See if you agree with their thoughts on the clinical trials of rufinamide. http://professionals.epilepsy.com/page/hallway_rufinamide.html

Transportation: Limited Ability to Get to a Pharmacy Impacts a Patient's Medication Compliance – Read the results of a survey, posted on our site, which Professor Timothy Welty and colleagues plan to submit for presentation at the 2007 American Epilepsy Society meeting. http://professionals.epilepsy.com/page/ar_1182877139.html

Perspectives: Patent Pending – This is an interesting perspective on the proposed changes to patent laws under discussion by Congress. Michael B. Losow, Director of Outreach, Biotechnology Industry Organization, explains that these proposed changes could ultimately result in decreased investment in the life sciences, slowing the development of new medical therapies and technologies. http://www.epilepsy.com/articles/ar_1183476354.html

Challenging Cases: "The Value of Diagnostic Persistence" – Presented by Gregory L. Krauss, MD, from Johns Hopkins Hospital, this case illustrates the difficulty of localizing seizures in extratemporal neocortex. It also highlights the possibility that some patients with uncontrolled but stereotyped seizures may have focal ictal zones and may benefit from surgical treatment. http://professionals.epilepsy.com/page/case_6.html

CIMIT Summer Education Series and the Epilepsy TDP webcast: The Epilepsy TDP supported the development of a NeuroTechnology Program at CIMIT (www.cimit.org), which has organized a series of seminars this month called "Neurotechnology: Translating Basic Discoveries into Clinical Promise." Webcasts of the first two seminars are made possible by an educational grant from Epilepsy TDP. I am serving as Co-Director of the series with Charles Jennings, PhD, Director, MIT McGovern Institute Neurotechnology Program, which will host the event.

Of particular interest to the professional epilepsy community is "Decoding Cortical Electrophysiology for the Detection of Seizures", with presentations by John Guttag, PhD, MIT and Steven C. Schachter,

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Upcoming epilepsy-related conferences, symposia and events include:

July 08-July 12, 2007

27th International Epilepsy Congress
Suntec City, Singapore

Tuesdays in July
(July 10, 17, 24, 31)

CIMIT Summer Education Series
2007

MIT McGovern Institute for Brain
Research

MD on July 17th. For more information about the series and the webcast: <http://www.cimit.org/forum/summerseries07.htm>

Resources that can be helpful to your patients:

What Every Traveler Needs to Know About Preventing Seizure Emergencies – From our new online section, **Seizure Preparedness**, this tells how to reduce the chances of an emergency when on the go and be prepared just in case. http://www.epilepsy.com/epilepsy/preparedness_plans.html

Seizure Medicine Sheets – Our series to help patients continues. We are presenting more information about seizure medicines in a format that is easy to read and understand. New AEDs will be ready this week to download and print out. http://www.epilepsy.com/epilepsy/seizure_medicines.html

Coming News:

- **The 27th International Epilepsy Congress** in Singapore is slated for July 8 through 12th. We will be bringing you highlights.
- **Steven C. Schachter, MD**, will be profiled in the Harvard Medical School Magazine *Focus* regarding his work with huperzine.
- **Operation Giveback** is a collaborative project to help returning soldiers at risk for epilepsy. We will talk with Marc Dichter, MD, University of Pennsylvania Medical School, who is spearheading the project.
- **Pregnancy and Seizure Medications**, a perplexing issue -- will be discussed in our next Hallway Conversations with Page Pennell, Emory University and Andre Lagrange, MD, PhD, Vanderbilt.
- **Sleep Disorders and Epilepsy**, Carl W. Bazil, MD, PhD, The Neurological Institute of Columbia University, discusses the vital importance of sleep for those with epilepsy.
- **Transportation regulations** remain in the news. Gregory Krauss, MD, Johns Hopkins, who participated in a Federal DOT panel last month, tells us of guidelines revisions for commercial drivers with seizures.
- **Videos**, Robert Fisher, MD, PhD, Stanford University, is developing a series of videos to help patients gain a better understanding of epilepsy.

We welcome your suggestions on making this site as timely and informative as possible. Have a great July!

Steven C. Schachter, MD
Editor-in-Chief



NEW AT [epilepsy.com](http://www.epilepsy.com) /Professionals

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 Power Point 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

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](http://epilepsy.com/professionals), please email it to jacki@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** 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 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.

To learn more about our programs, please visit our website: 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.