

GREETINGS FROM OUR EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



November is National Epilepsy Month, and we've been very active. From a compelling new PBS documentary about refractory epilepsy to support for a NeuroTechnology Program designed to advance new technology-based therapies for those with epilepsy, we are forging ahead with education and development. We are grateful to the Epilepsy Therapy Development Project (Epilepsy TDP), the parent organization of Epilepsy.com, for supporting the documentary and funding the NeuroTechnology Program. These exciting developments are highlighted in this Spotlight edition.

Hallway Conversations, another new feature on our site, presents epilepsy experts commenting on the latest research findings and what they mean for their practices. We invite your participation and comments.

Do you have any suggestions or feedback for me? Just email the [webmaster](#) and I'll be happy to read your comments and advice.

Steven C. Schachter, MD
Editor-in-Chief



HALLWAY CONVERSATIONS

You've read the latest epilepsy study, but what do you make of the results and what do other experts have to say? In **Hallway Conversations** we present perspectives and opinions from epilepsy experts based on their interpretation of findings from new studies and their own experience. What do you think about these issues? How will they affect your practice?

Our first feature is **Valproate May Increase Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes**. We asked for comments from two experts, and we invite your feedback. To learn more go to: professionals.epilepsy.com/page/hallway_valproate_pregnancy.html

Watch for our second feature this week: Evaluation of the First Seizure(s): Are Patients Presenting with Multiple Seizures Within 24 Hours at Greater Risk for Seizure Recurrence within One Year than Patients Presenting with a Single Seizure?

ANTI-EPILEPTIC DRUG DEVELOPMENTS

Special editorial: The Risks and Benefits of Epilepsy

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Upcoming epilepsy-related conferences, symposia and events include:

December 01-December 05, 2006
60th Annual Meeting of the American Epilepsy Society
San Diego, California

March 21-March 24, 2007
Antiepileptic Drug Trials IX
Sunny Isles, Florida USA

UPCOMING EVENTS

American Epilepsy Society meeting in San Diego, December 1-5

Honors: Epilepsy.com Editor-in-Chief Steven Schachter, MD, and Epilepsy.com Resource Consultant Patricia Osborne Shafer will be honored at the 60th Annual Meeting of the American Epilepsy Society (AES) in

Medication During Pregnancy

Less than a month after the FDA approved Lamictal™ for the treatment of primary generalized tonic-clonic seizures, the FDA issued an alert about the drug. We asked Orrin Devinsky, MD, to comment. Go to:

www.epilepsy.com/articles/ar_1161009025.html

Dispense as Written

Increasing numbers of generic antiepileptic drugs have been marketed or are awaiting approval. To help you and your patients understand the issues related to generic seizure medications, we've prepared an overview. To read more go to: professionals.epilepsy.com/page/generic_considerations.html

Reviewing the Findings of the EILAT Conference

The Eighth Eilat Conference on New Antiepileptic Drugs (EILAT VIII) was held in Sitges, Spain last month. As in the past, the conference provided an in-depth progress report on new antiepileptic drugs in different stages of development. New this year, however, was the invitation extended to Warren Lammert, Co-Founder and Chairman of Epilepsy TDP, to speak on behalf of patients. To read about the event, go to: professionals.epilepsy.com/page/ar_1162411637.html

NEUROTECHNOLOGY AND EPILEPSY

With the advent of new technologies that can detect epileptic seizures within seconds of their onset, Epilepsy TDP announced a significant gift to CIMIT's newly-launched NeuroTechnology Program in support of epilepsy-related research and development. To read about this innovative program, go to: professionals.epilepsy.com/newsfeed/pr_1162391400.html

STAY TUNED

- The American Epilepsy Society Mid-Year Meeting
- AED drug information sheets for patients

December. Dr. Schachter is the recipient of the AES Service Award, which recognizes outstanding service in the field of epilepsy with emphasis on exemplary contributions to the welfare of the American Epilepsy Society and its members. Ms. Shafer will receive the J. Kiffen Penry Award for excellence in epilepsy care.

The Hoyer Lecture: Daniel H. Lowenstein, MD, will be speaking on: "Pathways to Discovery in Epilepsy Research: Rethinking the Quest for Cures" at the fourth annual Judith Hoyer Lecture in Epilepsy at the AES meeting. The lecture is being sponsored by the [National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke](#).

Join Us at the AES Meeting

If you are planning to attend the American Epilepsy Society Annual Meeting in San Diego, California in December 2006, please be sure to visit us at the following:

Sunday, and Monday, December 3rd and 4th: 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. - San Diego Convention Center

Visit our exhibit booth (#120) and experience a guided tour through [epilepsy.com](#), and [epilepsy.com/professionals](#). Preview our latest project; a compelling new PBS documentary about refractory epilepsy! Learn about research grant opportunities, and much, much more.

Monday, December 4th: 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Marriott San Diego Hotel & Marina

Epilepsy Research Awards Reception
Celebrate with us as we announce the newest Epilepsy Research Foundation award recipients.

Tuesday, December 5th: 12:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. - Marriott San Diego Hotel & Marina

Special Interest Group Meeting on
Translational Research - Commercialization
Pathways for Devices
Coordinators: Orrin Devinsky, M.D. and
Warren Lammert

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 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.