



The Epilepsy Center  
at The Neuroscience Institute  
New York Hospital Queens

*A Guide to Services  
for Treatment of  
Epilepsy*

*Epilepsia*

*Эпилепсия*

*Επιληψία*

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About one percent of the population – almost three million people – has some form of epilepsy, or seizures.

With the right treatment, most people with epilepsy are able to lead independent lives. However, as many as 30 percent of people with epilepsy have some limitations. These can affect how they act, how well they get along with people and even their ability to keep a job.

Epilepsy is usually treated with drugs. Sometimes, surgery or other approaches such as vagal nerve stimulation, direct brain stimulation or a Ketogenic diet may be a reasonable option. Because of advances in epilepsy research, doctors can identify surgery as the right option much earlier than they ever could before.

No matter what approach is taken, the main goal is to help people stop having seizures, with few or no side effects. With ongoing research, doctors such as those at New York Hospital Queens are helping patients achieve better and even faster results.

*Improved  
Treatment  
Equals  
Better and  
Faster  
Results*



## *The Epilepsy Center New York Hospital Queens*

One of the New York area's leading facilities for treating people with epilepsy is The Epilepsy Center, a part of The Neuroscience Institute at New York Hospital Queens.

Opened in 1999, The Epilepsy Center has a special unit with five beds, which is set up to monitor the treatment and progress of epilepsy patients. We offer a range of services including evaluation, diagnosis, drug treatment, surgery, care following surgery, education, psychiatry and many other forms of support. We offer both in-patient and out-patient care.

The Epilepsy Center is led by two neurologists – Neil Schaul, M.D. and Dmitriy Kolesnik, M.D. – who have years of experience in helping people with epilepsy lead improved lives. They are joined by a number of other medical professionals including an epilepsy surgeon, a psychiatrist, a nurse specialist and EEG technologists. The Epilepsy Center is affiliated with the Weill Medical College of Cornell University epilepsy program in Manhattan.

The Epilepsy Center is a Level 4 treatment center. This means we provide the full range of epilepsy services.



# Our Resources

In addition to drug therapy and surgery, The Epilepsy Center at New York Hospital Queens offers many other approaches and services, including:

## Continuous EEG monitoring

This process allows us to make the right diagnosis and specify the best treatment. Inpatient assessment with video and reduction of medication helps to precisely determine seizure type. Outpatient ambulatory continuous EEG allows assessment as patient goes about daily living.

## Memory-Language tests

The carotid amygdala test is utilized to assess lateralization of language and determine temporal lobe memory function. These tests help us determine if surgery is the best option.



## Imaging

A new 1.5 Tesla MRI is available to perform special epilepsy protocols (high resolution). MRI spectroscopy and PET (positron emission tomography) are utilized in selective cases that are candidates for epilepsy surgery.

## Psychiatry

Our psychiatrist is trained to help patients deal with emotional issues related to having epilepsy.

## Surgical path

In most cases where drug treatment fails to provide adequate control, surgery can deliver a cure. Inpatient video EEG monitoring, MRI, PET scan and the carotid amygdala tests are generally necessary. If the data indicate one location for all seizures, the chance of complete cure (freedom from seizures) is high.

## Community resources

We have a full time patient advocate to help patients navigate rehabilitation services, group home placement, insurance issues, Medicaid, food stamps and other public benefits.

## Language translation

In addition to English, we offer translators who are fluent in Spanish, Russian, French, Hindi, Mandarin Chinese and Polish. We also have translation services to help with almost any language or dialect. This gives our patients the comfort of communicating in their own language.



## Our Location

The New York Hospital Queens  
Epilepsy Center is located at:  
56-45 Main Street  
Flushing, NY 11355

## Contact Information

Referring doctors can contact us at  
718-670-2900, Monday through Friday  
between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

- Neil Schaul, M.D.  
*Director, Neurology,  
Comprehensive Epilepsy Center*
- Dmitriy V. Kolesnik, M.D.  
*Neurologist and Epileptologist*
- Ted Schwartz, M.D. *Epilepsy Surgeon*
- Jimmy Chen, M.D. *Psychiatrist*
- Claudia Cadet, R.N.  
*Epilepsy Nurse Specialist*
- Pascale Wolfensberger  
*Advocate and Information Specialist*
- Peggy Boyke *Office Coordinator*

For more information or to schedule  
an appointment:

**718-670-2900**

### New York Hospital Queens

56-45 Main Street  
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718-670-1231  
[nyhq.org](http://nyhq.org)

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