

# Epilepsy News

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Welcome to Epilepsy News. We pride ourselves at sending you the most up-to-date information about epilepsy events, conferences, and issues that are important to you.



Please consult our website for further information: [www.efnj.com](http://www.efnj.com).

## Join our Mailing List!

## Our Administrative Office has Moved!

Our new address is 1 AAA Drive, Trenton, NJ 08691

### North Jersey Office

322 US Highway 46, Ste. 220  
Parsippany, NJ 07054  
(973) 244-0850

### Central Jersey Office

2516 Highway 35  
Manasquan, NJ 08736  
(732) 528-8080

### South Jersey Office

216 Haddon Avenue  
Suite 329  
Westmont, NJ 08108  
(856) 858-5900

### Heads Up for Safety

35 Beaverson Blvd.  
Building 11  
Brick, NJ 08723  
(732) 262-8020

## Quick Links

- [Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey](#)
- [The Family Support Center of New Jersey](#)
- [The Family Resource Network](#)

## November is Epilepsy Awareness Month!

Please visit our website for upcoming events to celebrate - [www.efnj.com](http://www.efnj.com).

### Walk for a Brighter Tomorrow a Huge Success!

On Sunday, October 11, 2009, EFNJ, The Family Resource Network and over 600 walkers on 46 teams participated in the state-wide Walk-a-thon, Walk for a Brighter Tomorrow at Roosevelt Park, in Edison, New Jersey.

Together with all of your support, we raised over \$95,000 for FRN and EFNJ! The total raised was a record for the event, as was the turnout of walkers and volunteers.



The Gold Sponsor for the event was, Pfizer, The Silver, Sciame Construction, and Bronze was Accenture and CIFI.

#### Congratulations to the Top Teams:

Will Power (\$23,705)  
The A-Team (\$5,336)  
The Perlowski Family (\$5,000)  
Team Kurland (\$4,440)  
Team Free (\$4,111)

Find more information about the Walk and how you can get involved at [www.walkforabrightertomorrow.org](http://www.walkforabrightertomorrow.org) or via phone 1-800-FRN-2345.

Thank you again to all the participants who came out on the 11th to show support. Without you, the day would not have been such a success!

### Talk About it @ Dinner



This year, National Epilepsy Awareness Month (NEAM) in November will celebrate the importance of sharing personal stories about epilepsy and building a movement where everyone impacted by epilepsy, directly or not, feels comfortable to Talk About It. NEAM will focus on the power of the personal story and the creative ways in which to encourage communities of all sizes to talk about epilepsy together.

EFNJ is asking you to consider hosting an "at-home" dinner party to raise awareness and money for the Epilepsy Foundation and its mission. Talk About it @ Dinner capitalizes on the enduring popularity of food oriented events and home entertaining. This initiative is both a valuable fundraiser and public awareness campaign all wrapped into one.

We are asking that families wishing to support the project to choose a date and host the event. Materials including invitations, foundation information, thank you cards and videos can be found at [www.efnj.com](http://www.efnj.com). In order to participate, you simply need to fill out a registration form and fax it to 609-392-5621 or email it to

Heather Comstock at [hcomstock@efnj.com](mailto:hcomstock@efnj.com).

Please do not hesitate to call 609-392-4900 with any questions.

Thank you for your support!

## EFNJ 40th Anniversary Tagline Contest

EFNJ is having a competition to find the best tagline for our 2010 40th anniversary! The guidelines are simple—we're looking for something fairly short (a few words or short sentence) that describes EFNJ and its years of service and impact on individuals with epilepsy and their caregivers. The winner will receive a \$40 American Express gift card! To enter, just email your entry to [efnj@efnj.com](mailto:efnj@efnj.com) with Subject: tagline. Deadline for entries is November 15, 2009. Winner will be announced in November - "Epilepsy Awareness Month".



## What is the EYC?

EYC is the Epilepsy Foundation's newest website for young people with epilepsy. It is the spot for young people with epilepsy on the web to learn more about living with epilepsy, meet other people like themselves, and generally have a place to talk, share stories, and hang out with other people affected by epilepsy. Explore the site at [www.goeyc.org](http://www.goeyc.org).

## History Exhibit to Kick Off 40th Anniversary Observance

EFNJ will draw on its 15 years of collecting History of Epilepsy in America material to mount an exhibit that is scheduled to open on January 16, 2010, the 40th anniversary of EFNJ's formation. The exhibit will be housed in FRN's Bordentown office and will be open to the public till February 16, 2010. The exhibit is being sponsored by Pfizer. This will kick off a year-long observance of EFNJ's 40th anniversary that will include activities in almost every month during 2010. Check [www.efnj.com](http://www.efnj.com) for more information.

## Actavis Launches Topiramate on Day 1 in 4 European Markets

Actavis announced the launch of the antiepileptic drug Topiramate in the UK, Germany, France and Switzerland. The product was launched on day one as the originator's patent expired on September 25th. Actavis was first to market in all four countries.

Topiramate is used to treat epilepsy and is the generic equivalent of Janssen-Cilag's Topamax® / EpiMax®. Topiramate Actavis was developed by Actavis' R&D in Iceland and is produced by Actavis in Hafnarfjörður, Iceland. Actavis has already launched Topiramate in other countries where no patent protection was in place, including Portugal in 2007.

## Epilepsy is the 5th Most Often Missed Medical Problems in Kids



Children'sHealth lists epilepsy as the 5th most commonly missed medical conditions that affect children under age 2. Even garden-variety childhood illnesses, the kind pediatricians see every day, often manifest themselves very differently in babies than in older kids. Parents may not know that their 6-month-old has the same strep infection their 6-year-old had last week.

Babies can have seizures for many reasons that aren't epilepsy: a high fever, for instance, or low blood sugar. But because epileptic seizures are often extremely subtle, it's sometimes difficult to identify even one.

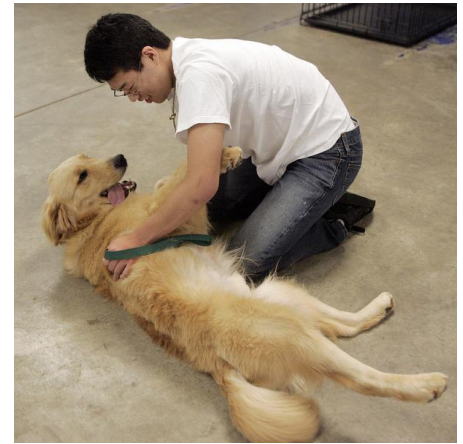
Epilepsy is listed among torticollis, Type I diabetes, head injuries and pertussis.

Taken from ChildrensHealth newsletter.

## Canine Assistants Provide Independence

Will Orsini, a 16 year old with epilepsy received Potter, a service dog, this summer to help bring him one step closer to independence.

The 16-year-old from New Jersey has suffered daily seizures for 10 years, debilitating episodes that have affected his development and keep him tethered to his family. [Click here to read the Orsini family's story of Potter and Canine Assistants](#), by Katie Leslie, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution.



## New Online Support Group

New free Epilepsy online support group! [www.mdjunction.com/epilepsy](http://www.mdjunction.com/epilepsy) is a community of patients, family members and friends dedicated to dealing with Epilepsy, together.

[www.mdjunction.com/epilepsy](http://www.mdjunction.com/epilepsy)

Thank you for reading Epilepsy News! If you have any information you would like included in our e-zine, or know of anyone that would like to be added to our listserv, please email me at [aracioppi@efnj.com](mailto:aracioppi@efnj.com) or click the "Join Our Mailing List" button on the top right side of the newsletter.

Sincerely,

Andrea Racioppi  
Associate Director  
Epilepsy Foundation of NJ

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