



# EPILEPSY AND SEIZURES

McLaren Macomb now offers specialized diagnosis and treatment for adults with seizures and epilepsy.

Expansion of the neurology services includes:

- Outpatient consultation by an epileptologist (neurologist who specializes in the treatment of seizures)
- Diagnostic testing:  
Routine and prolonged electroencephalogram (EEG) done in the outpatient setting, including ambulatory and prolonged video EEG  
The epilepsy monitoring unit (EMU), offers continuous video EEG in the setting of the epilepsy monitoring unit; for diagnosis, management of epilepsy, seizures, or seizure like spells
- The capability for continuous video EEG monitoring for critically ill patients in the ICU

## THE FACTS:

- 1:26 people will develop epilepsy at some point in their lifetime
- Epilepsy can begin at any age, one does not have to have a family history or risk factors
- Approximately 40% of individuals with epilepsy do not have their seizures controlled by medications
- Recurrent, uncontrolled seizures can lead to memory loss, personality change, injury (and potentially death)



## POSSIBLE SIGNS OF A SEIZURE

- Despite what is often portrayed in the media, a generalized tonic clonic seizure (otherwise referred to as a grand mal seizure or convulsion) is not the most common type of seizure
- Seizures can present in various ways and at times with very subtle manifestations, such as but not limited to changes in speech, vision, confusion, memory loss, unintentional picking, grabbing or other movements
- One does not need to lose consciousness

## WHEN TO SEE AN EPILEPTOLOGIST: DOING WHAT'S BEST

- Continual seizures despite being on two seizure medications
- Change occurs in the type, pattern, or frequency of seizures
- If diagnosis of seizures is uncertain
- Experiencing side effects from medications
- Females of child bearing age with seizures who are or plan to become pregnant
- Discuss other treatment options for epilepsy including newer medications, or nonpharmaceutical treatments

### Outpatient Consultation

For questions about seizures/epilepsy or to refer for an outpatient epilepsy consultation please call (586) 493-3297.

### Inpatient Consultation

To discuss treatment options in the inpatient setting please contact Dr. Ardeszna at (586) 493-1585.