

Understanding Your Negative Epilepsy Genetic Test Result

INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS

Result	NEGATIVE	The testing done for you/your family member did not find any pathogenic mutations (disease-causing changes in the gene, like a spelling mistake) that cause epilepsy. You/your family member may have a mutation in a gene that was not included in this test, or you/your family member's epilepsy may not be caused by a gene change.
Gene	DEFINITIONS	Genes are instructions for how our bodies work and develop. Everyone has two copies of each gene, one from each parent. Mutations in certain genes can cause epilepsy. These mutations may be passed down in families or be brand new for the person with epilepsy. Even if there is no one else with epilepsy in your family, it can still be caused by a change in a gene.
Diagnosis	NO CHANGE	This testing does not change your/your family member's epilepsy diagnosis. If you or your family member has been diagnosed with epilepsy, your diagnosis remains the same.
Further Testing	DISCUSS	More genetic testing may be right for you/your family member. Please discuss this with your healthcare provider.
Management Options	FOR PATIENTS WITH EPILEPSY	Management options can include: medication, specific diet, surgery, or avoiding certain situations that can bring on seizures. Talk to your healthcare provider about which options may be right for you/your family member.
Next Steps	DISCUSS	It is recommended that you share this information with family members so they can learn more and discuss with their healthcare providers.
Reach Out	RESOURCES	American Epilepsy Society aesnet.org Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy cureepilepsy.org Epilepsy Foundation epilepsy.com National Society of Genetic Counselors nsgc.org Canadian Association of Genetic Counsellors cagc-accg.ca

Please discuss this information with your healthcare provider. The field of genetics is continuously changing, so updates related to your epilepsy genetic testing result, medical recommendations, and/or potential treatments may be available over time. Contact your healthcare provider for possible updates. This information is not meant to replace a discussion with a healthcare provider, and should not be considered or interpreted as medical advice.