

Understanding Your Negative Epilepsy Genetic Test Result

INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS

Result	The genetic testing done for you or your family member did not find any pathogenic or likely pathogenic variants (changes in a gene that are disease-causing or likely to be disease-causing) in genes that cause epilepsy.
Genes and Inheritance	Genes are instructions for how our bodies work and develop. Everyone has two copies of each gene, one from each parent. Changes in certain genes can cause epilepsy and may be passed down in families or be brand new in the person who has epilepsy. Even if there is no history of epilepsy in your family, it can still be caused by a change in a gene. Also, some types of epilepsy are not caused by changes in a gene.
Diagnosis	This testing does not change you or your family member's epilepsy diagnosis. If you or your family member has been diagnosed with epilepsy, your diagnosis remains the same. Talk with your healthcare provider to learn more about whether you or your family member might need any additional genetic testing.
Management Options	Management options can include: medication, specific diet, surgery, or avoiding certain situations that can bring on seizures. Talk to your healthcare provider about which treatment options may be helpful for you or your family member.
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 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. This information is not meant to replace a discussion with a healthcare provider, and should not be considered or interpreted as medical advice.