

THE FAMILY STUDIES RESEARCH COLLABORATION PROGRAM

David A. Greenberg, Ph.D. is directing **The Family Studies on the Genetics of Epilepsies Research Program** at the New York Presbyterian Medical Center, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health in New York City and collaborating with other physicians and neurologists at various hospitals, clinics and private practice offices. These epilepsies that begin during childhood or adolescence and have no known causes are the focus of this research study.

(JME) Juvenile Myoclonic Epilepsy. In this form of epilepsy the patient has myoclonic (muscle) jerks usually of the arms and shoulders. These jerks occur shortly after awakening in the morning or after a nap. Patients also may have grand mal seizures and absence (petit mal) seizures.

(JAE) Juvenile Absence Epilepsy. In this type of epilepsy the patients have brief spells of staring, each lasting a few seconds. These patients also can experience grand mal seizures.

(CAE) Childhood Absence Epilepsy also called "petit mal" affects children starting around 4-8 years of age. Absence seizures occur many times a day.

(AGM) Epilepsy with Grand Mal Seizures upon Awakening is unusual in that patients have most seizures in the morning shortly after awakening or on awakening from a nap.

(RGM) Random Grand Mal is a form of epilepsy in which grand mal seizures can occur any time of day (not night).

Benign Rolandic Epilepsy (BRE) is a focal type of epilepsy that affects children around 7 years of age. In a BRE seizure, the child often awakes making grunting noises and has difficulty speaking for a few minutes. A grand mal seizure sometimes follows.

Focal Seizures Patients with focal seizures or with seizures due to head trauma or stroke are invited to participate as control groups.

Family members with or without symptoms of epilepsy are also invited to participate because they provide useful information for understanding how genes are involved in the expression of epilepsy

What do participants have to do: Participants will have an interview, they will be asked for a sample of saliva. Time invested will be less than 2 hours. Study participation will not interfere with participant medical care.

All testing is free of charge with incidentals reimbursed by the Family Studies Program. All study information is confidential to the extent of the law

If you are interested in participating or would like more information, please fill out the spaces below. Sign where indicated and leave this form with your physician. If you received this information by mail, please return in the enclosed prepaid, pre-addressed envelope. You may also call Dr. Greenberg directly at telephone # 212-342-0488 or the Director of Recruitment at Columbia Health Sciences, Ms. Rene Klotz, CMSW at 212-342-0489

Name (print) _____ Signature _____ Date _____

If minor: parent/guardian (print) _____ Relationship _____ Signature _____

Address _____ Telephone # _____

Email address _____ Name of collaborating physician _____