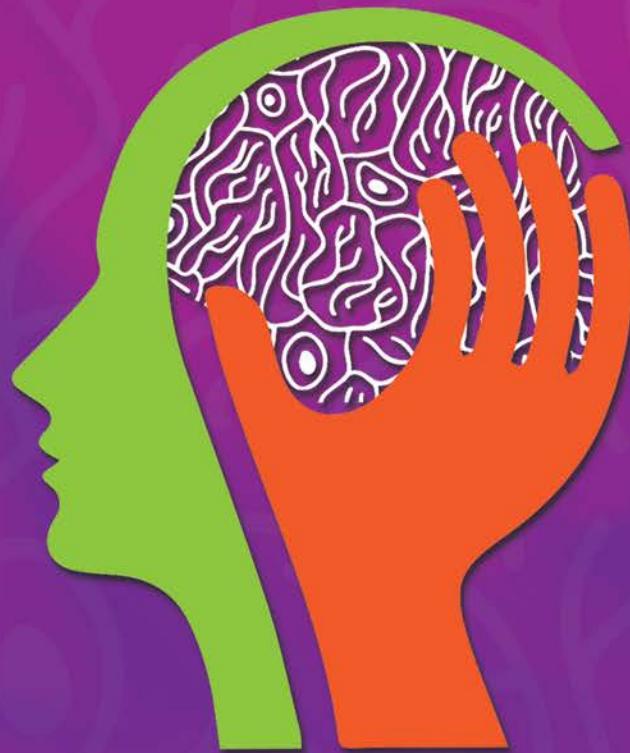




WORLD FEDERATION OF NEUROLOGY



# World Brain Day

Epilepsy.... is more than SEIZURES!

**22<sup>nd</sup> July 2015**

## WORLD FEDERATION OF NEUROLOGY



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# World Brain Day 2015 Partners



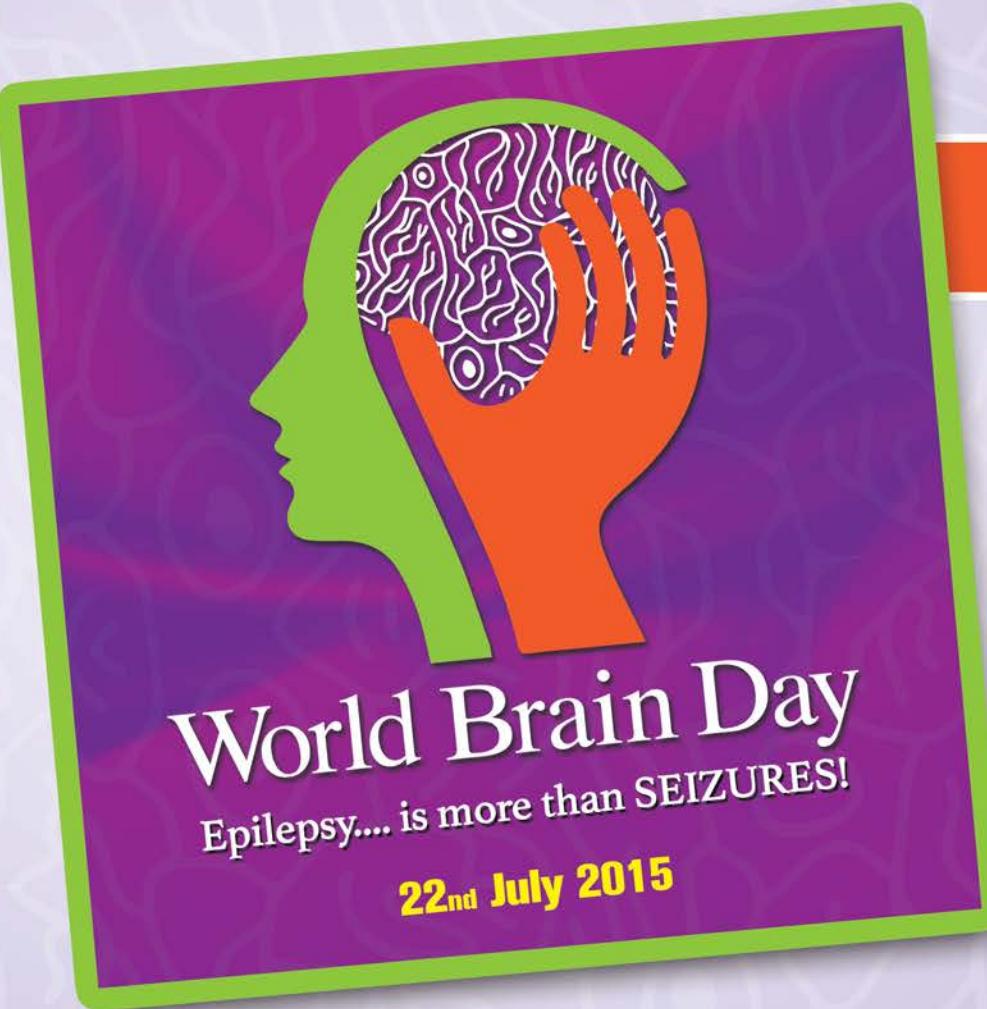
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## Overview WBD 2015

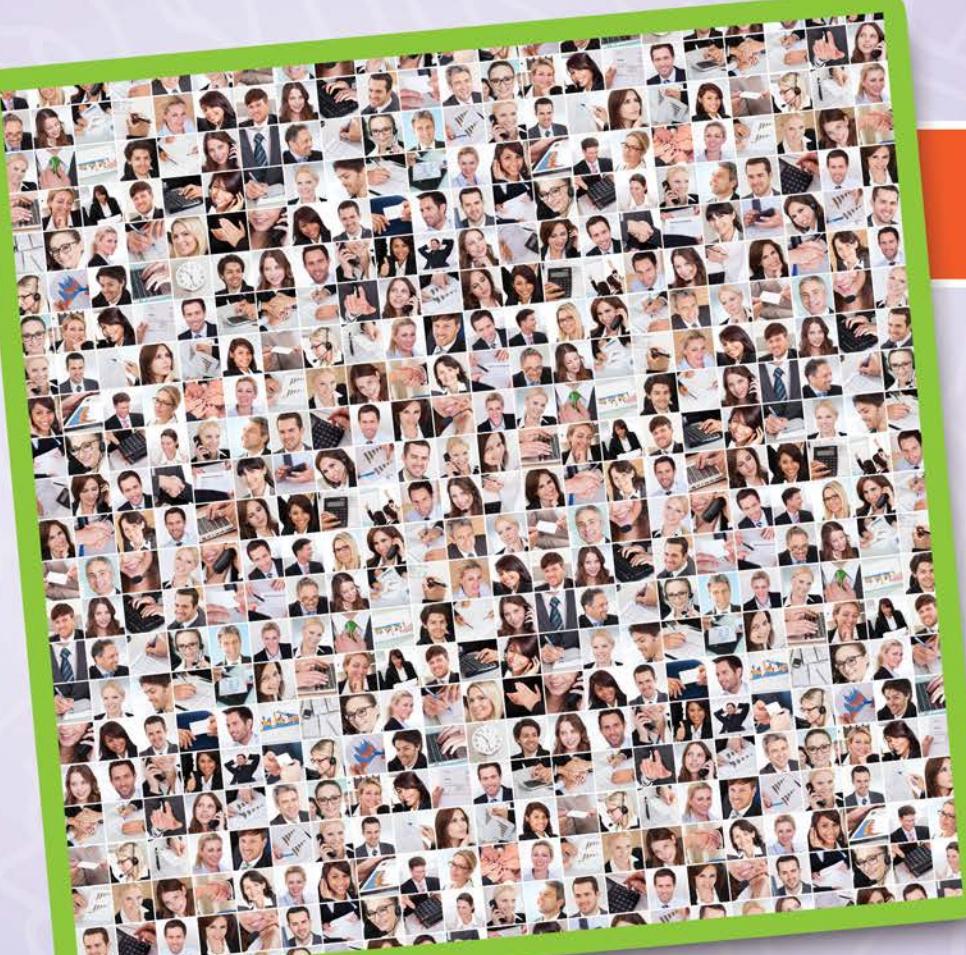
The World Federation of Neurology and its partners the International League Against Epilepsy (ILAE) and the International Bureau for Epilepsy (IBE) together with the World Health Organization (WHO) are pleased to announce that the focus for this year's **World Brain Day is epilepsy**.



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## Why Epilepsy?

Epilepsy was chosen for several reasons:

- **Most common of the chronic serious brain diseases.**
- **Lack of awareness among public & misperceptions.**
- **Enormous psychosocial consequences for most people who have epilepsy.**
- **Inadequate knowledge among physicians.**
- **Poor availability of medications in most countries.**



## What is Epilepsy?

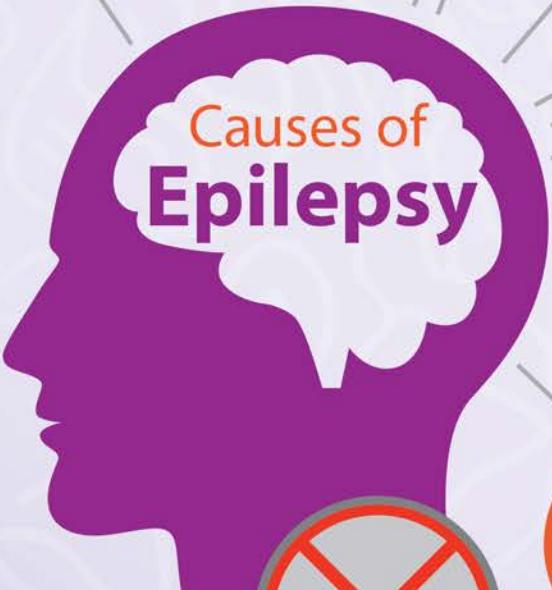
# A BRAIN DISEASE characterized by *recurrent seizures*

Seizures are due to  
*brief disturbances* in the  
  
*electrical functions*  
of the brain



*Epilepsy affects people of all ages*





## Causes of Epilepsy

NEUROLOGICAL  
INFECTIONS



STROKE



HEAD  
INJURIES

GENETIC  
BASIS

BRAIN  
TUMOURS

DEFECTS IN  
BRAIN  
DEVELOPMENT



BRAIN DAMAGE  
FROM PRENATAL OR  
PERINATAL CAUSES

UNKNOWN  
IN MANY CASES.

CONTAGIOUS



## What is the IMPACT of Epilepsy?

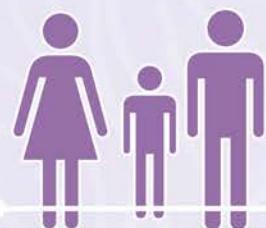


50 000 000

*More than 50 million people are  
living with epilepsy globally*

3-6 TIMES  
↑  
GREATER  
RISK  
OF PREMATURE  
DEATH





Epilepsy is not contagious

1



minute is a long time when someone you love is having a seizure

## How Long Do Seizures Last ?

The type of seizure depends on which area of the brain is involved. A person having a seizure may experience an alteration in behavior, consciousness, movement, perception and/or sensation.



# Types of Seizures

## Generalized Seizures

In generalized seizures, abnormal electrical activity occurs throughout the whole brain (both hemispheres).

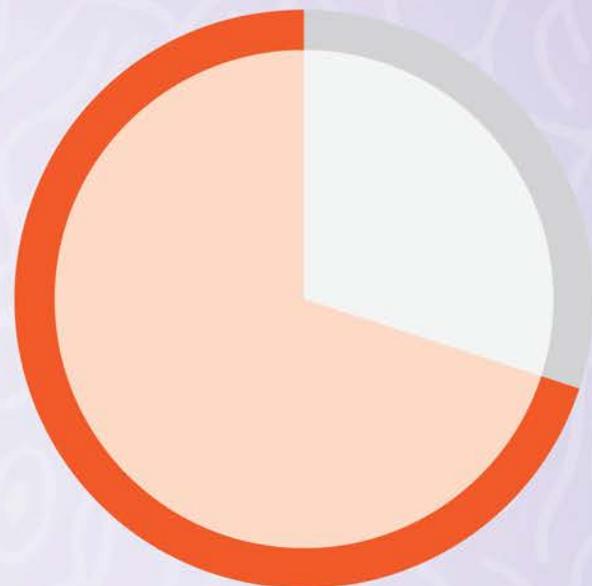
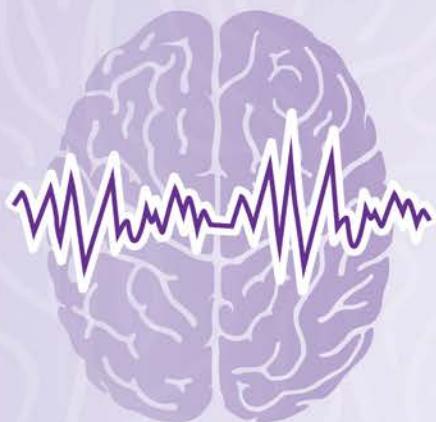
Generalized seizures alter awareness. They can be convulsive or non-convulsive.

## Focal Seizures

Focal seizures begin in one place in the brain, called the seizure focus, and may be discretely localized or more widely distributed. For each seizure type, onset is consistent from one seizure to another, with preferential patterns of spread. Focal seizures may or may not alter awareness.

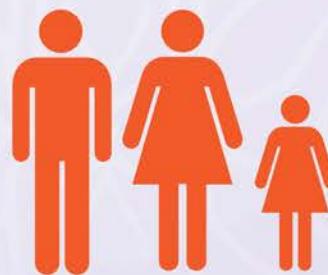


# What is the Solution?



*Epilepsy can be treated with inexpensive and effective anti-epileptic medicines.*

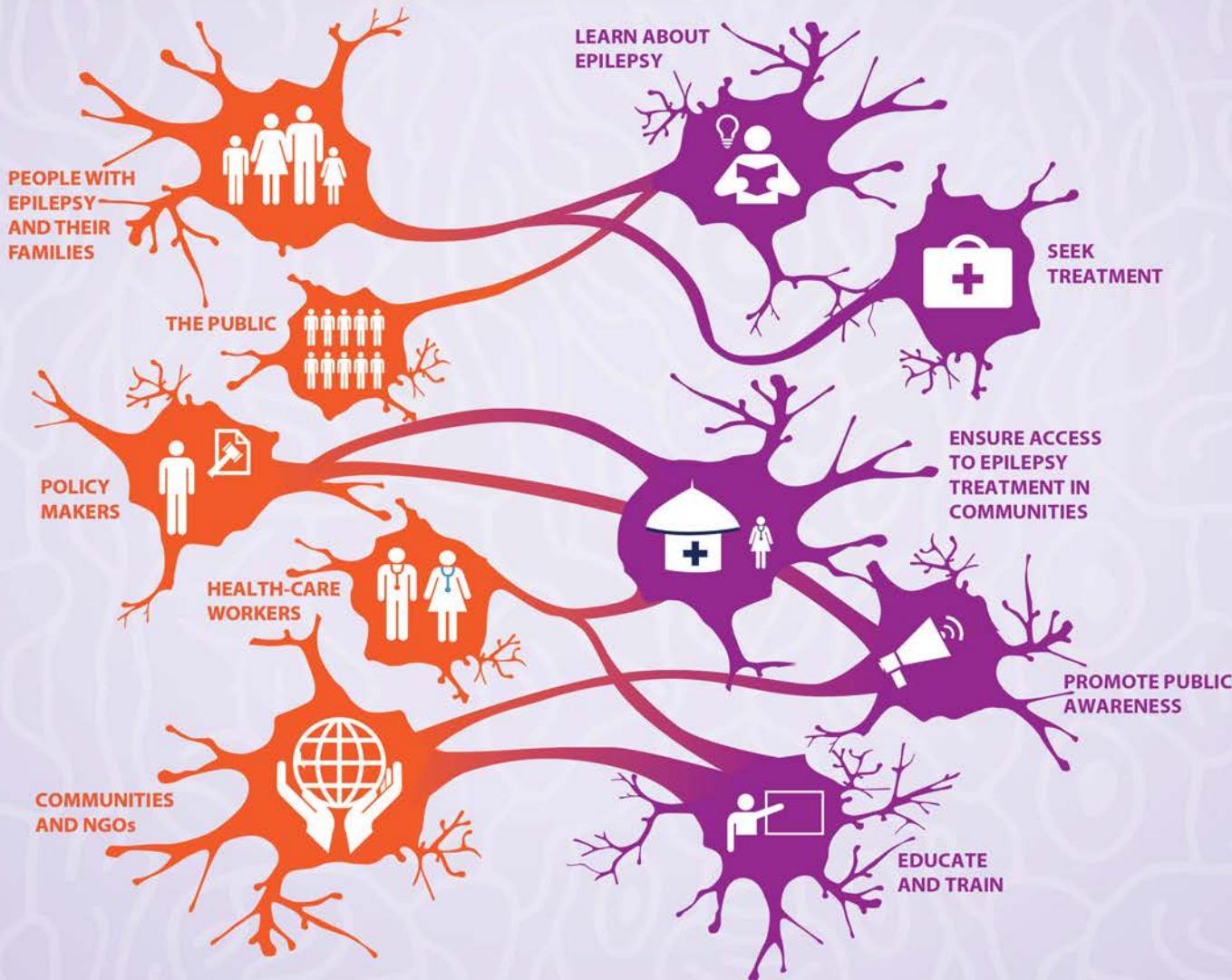
**70%**  
**NORMAL LIVES**



*With such treatment 70% of people with epilepsy can lead normal lives.*



# Who Can Do What?





## Don't Hide Epilepsy!

Epilepsy has never received the support that is commensurate to its costs, in part because many work hard to hide it out of fear from repercussions. Most societies have widespread, unfounded prejudices against people with epilepsy.





## Epilepsy Can Kill

The burden of the disease is further emphasized by the greatly increased death rate among people with epilepsy from seizure-related accidents, much increased depression and suicide rates, as well as the disease itself.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Unexpected Cause of Death!**

Just in terms of life-years lost from sudden unexpected death, epilepsy ranks second only to stroke among major neurological diseases.





## What Can treatment Do?

With treatment, 70% of people with epilepsy could be seizure free and live normally.





## Training of Physicians

- Many health care providers do not have the training to recognize, diagnose or treat epilepsy.
- Every medical student should be sensitized to epilepsy in their early training.





## Research & Legislation

Research and legislation is needed to improve access to care and the quality of life of persons with epilepsy.





## Most Exceptional & Talented People with Epilepsy

Some of the most exceptionally creative and talented people in history had epilepsy, including:

St. Paul, Julius Caesar, Dante, Joan of Arc, Isaac Newton, Molière, Napoleon Bonaparte, Handel, Beethoven, Flaubert, Paganini, Tennyson, Byron, Charles Dickens, Fyodor Dostoyevsky, Vincent Van Gogh, Lewis Carroll ,Alfred Nobel, Agatha Christie, and Richard Burton.



# Together We Can!

epilepsy  
ontario



World Brain Day  
Epilepsy.... is more than SEIZURES!

22nd July 2015



- Use this World Brain Day to bring greater visibility to this neglected disease.
- National health care and research agendas need to recognize the seriousness of epilepsy and its consequences.
- Address the great social, medical and economic burdens of epilepsy.
- Remember that epilepsy is a treatable brain disease.



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