According to a study published by the American Academy of Pediatrics, epilepsy is one of the most common chronic neurologic conditions in children, affecting 0.5% to 1% during childhood.

Antiepileptic medication therapy is the first line of treatment for newly diagnosed children. And while medication is effective for about 65% of patients, about 35% will continue to have seizures.

To address the complex needs of children with epilepsy and seizure disorders, the Children’s Mercy Comprehensive Epilepsy Center offers innovative diagnostic technology, treatment and support, including:

• Robotic surgery—We are the only pediatric hospital in the region utilizing a state-of-the-art surgical navigation and positioning system known as robotic stereotactic assistance, or ROSA Brain, to precisely pinpoint the source of seizure activity via a minimally invasive method.

• A full range of surgical options—Epilepsy resection surgery, laser interstitial thermal therapy and vagus nerve simulation (VNS) are available at Children’s Mercy.

• Streamlined patient access, including same-day and Saturday EEG testing—Most clinic appointments can be scheduled at one of our convenient locations within days, not months. Same-day EEG testing is available from our ABRET-certified lab at multiple Children’s Mercy locations.

CONDITIONS WE TREAT
Drug-resistant epilepsy can result from a variety of causes, including but not limited to:

• Absence seizures
• New onset seizure
• Juvenile myoclonic epilepsy
• Lennox Gastaut syndrome
• Dravet syndrome
• Doose syndrome
• Benign Epilepsy with CentroTemporal Spikes (BECTS)
• Benign occipital childhood epilepsies
• Other epilepsy types related to post infectious, autoimmune, post traumatic, other genetic abnormalities and more
LEVEL IV EPILEPSY CENTER

The Children’s Mercy Comprehensive Epilepsy Center is recognized by the National Association of Epilepsy Centers as a Level IV Center, the highest level obtainable in epileptic care.

As one of only a dozen pediatric epilepsy centers in the nation, we can provide your patients with the most complete diagnostic and treatment services available in this region. Our EEG lab also is ABRET certified. Fewer than 10% of labs across the country achieve this certification.

We offer a full complement of diagnostic and treatment options for pediatric patients whose epilepsy is intractable. These include ROSA Brain, a state-of-the-art surgical navigation and positioning system; one of the largest ketogenic diet programs in the nation; and multiple surgical treatment options, such as vagal nerve stimulation.

SERVICES OFFERED

- Seizure evaluation and diagnosis
- Inpatient epilepsy monitoring unit (8 beds)
- Same-day and Saturday EEG diagnostic testing, performed by pediatric-trained EEG technicians
- Wada testing
- Testing for drug-resistant epilepsy, including: SPECT, Neuropsychological testing, EEG, 3T, MRI, PET, Functional MRI
- Evaluation of anti-epileptic drug efficacy and adversity
- Epilepsy Focus Mapping
  » ROSA Brain
  » Cortical mapping
  » Subcortical grid placement
- Epilepsy Surgery
  » Minimally invasive laser ablation
  » Temporal and extra-temporal
  » Lesional resection
  » Non-lesional resection
  » Corpus callostomy
  » Hemispherectomy
- Vagal Nerve Stimulation
  » Studies have shown neurostimulation provides improvement in mood and quality of life
- Ketogenic Diet Program
  » One of the largest programs in the country with 65% of patients achieving at least a 50% reduction in seizures

MEET OUR TEAM

Children’s Mercy has four epileptologists who have undergone extensive training to become triple board certified in child neurology, epilepsy and clinical neurophysiology. Only a handful of doctors across the nation have achieved this level of expertise in all three specialties.

Ahmed T. Abdelmoity, MD, FAAP*
Director, Division of Child Neurology;
Professor of Pediatrics in Neurology,
University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine

Waseem Baig, MD
Lalit Bansal, MD*
Ara Hall, MD
Mohammed Ilyas, MD*
Kailash Pawar, MD*
Lines Vargas-Collado, MD

*Triple Board Certified in child neurology, epilepsy and clinical neurophysiology

NEUROSURGEONS

Our neurosurgeons have experience with every type of surgical procedure approved to treat epilepsy. Children who undergo epilepsy surgery at Children’s Mercy outperform the national average for seizure freedom one year after epilepsy surgery.

Paul Grabb, MD
Section Chief, Neurosurgery; Associate Professor of Surgery, University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine

David Garcia, MD
Christian Kauffman, MD
Michael Partington, MD

LOCATION

Comprehensive Epilepsy Center
Children’s Mercy Hospital Kansas
5808 West 110th St.
Overland Park, KS 66211

HOW TO REFER A PATIENT

Visit: childrensmercy.secure.force.com/webreferral

- For the specialty, select: Neurology
- Reason for Consultation: Epilepsy
- Complete form and submit

Referring providers should send pertinent medical records, along with a referral letter, to the patient’s appointment. To speak with a member of the Comprehensive Epilepsy Center team directly, call (913) 696-8950.