



International Epilepsy Day

[Source: PIB](#)

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment conducted nationwide **programs** on **International Epilepsy Day (2nd Monday of February)** to promote effective epilepsy management and treatment awareness.

- **National Epilepsy Day (India)** is observed on **17th November**.

Epilepsy

- **About:** Epilepsy is a **chronic brain disorder** caused by abnormal electrical activity in the brain, **leading to seizures—brief episodes of involuntary movement** and loss of consciousness.
 - It is recognised by the [WHO](#) as a **neurological disorder**.
- **Causes:** The disease has **no identifiable cause** in nearly 50% of the cases. However, it is linked to **genetics, brain injuries, infections, stroke, tumors**.
- **Symptoms:** It is varying with some losing awareness, some stare blankly, while others experience **convulsions** (twitching movements).
- **Treatment Options:**
 - **First-line treatment** for epilepsy includes **anti-seizure medications**, while a **ketogenic diet (high-fat, low-carb)** is effective for **drug-resistant cases**.
 - Surgical options include **removing seizure-affected brain regions** or **corpus callosotomy** to prevent seizure spread.
 - **DBS Brain Implant:** Implanting a medical device with electrodes to specific brain regions linked to seizures.
- **Global Context:** **50 million people** worldwide have epilepsy, with **80% in low- and middle-income countries**.
 - **Proper diagnosis and timely treatment** can manage **70% of cases**, allowing seizure-free lives.

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EPILEPSY

SYMPTOMS



Loss of Consciousness



Anxiety



Staring

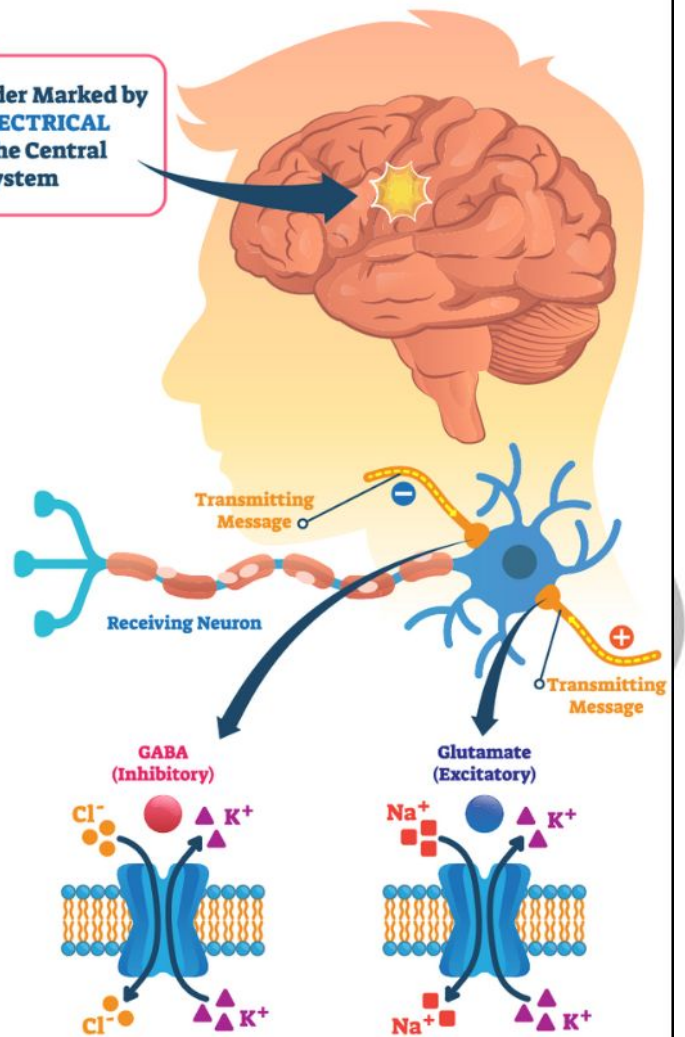


Weakness



Muscle Contraction and Jerking

Epilepsy is a Disorder Marked by **DISTURBED ELECTRICAL RHYTHMS** in the Central Nervous System



Read More: [DBS Brain Implant Surgery for Epilepsy Treatment](#)

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/international-epilepsy-day-1>