



BC GOVERNMENT RECEIVES A FAILING GRADE IN BC ADULT EPILEPSY CONSUMER REPORT CARD

Adults living with drug-resistant epilepsy in BC are the unwilling victims to a homegrown crisis. Through this survey, their voices have been heard.

Vancouver, BC: The epilepsy population in British Columbia is an underserved population, particularly for adults living with epilepsy in the province. Within British Columbia's adult epilepsy system, there are many inequities associated with the care and support provided to adults, especially when compared with the rest of Canada in terms of funding, treatment options, and wait lists, among many others.

The BC Epilepsy Society released the *Your Voice Matters: Adult Epilepsy System Report Card* survey to give adults living with and affected by epilepsy in BC the chance to have a voice, share their experiences and assign a report card grade to BC's adult epilepsy system. The purpose of this survey was to learn more about some of the impacts of shortcomings of the adult epilepsy system in BC and find a way to ensure that BC's adult epilepsy system is up to par with the rest of Canada and is meeting the needs of adults living with and affected by epilepsy in BC.

"The grades are in and the BC adult epilepsy health care system has failed. Adults living with drug-resistant epilepsy in BC are the unwilling victims to a homegrown crisis," said Kim Davidson, CEO & Executive Director of the BC Epilepsy Society. ***"Through this survey, the voices of adults living with drug-resistant epilepsy have been heard and the alarm has been sounded. Now that the BC Government knows better, they must do better."***

Results from the survey were able to shed light on the many inequities associated with the care and support provided to adults living with epilepsy in BC, including: that some respondents waited almost six years to get in the Seizure Investigation Unit (SIU) at Vancouver General Hospital (VGH), reporting that there is a lack of resources, support and treatment options in BC and that some respondents mentioned that, as soon as they aged out of BC's pediatric epilepsy system, they moved all of their adult epilepsy-related health care services to Calgary to ensure that they would get the care and support they needed in a timely manner.

To learn about these facts and many more, please click [here](#) to read the *BC Adult Epilepsy Consumer Report Card 2020* report and find the full results of the survey.

About the B.C. Epilepsy Society

The BC Epilepsy Society is a provincially incorporated charitable organization and a federally registered non-profit organization that provides information, advocacy and support to the over 50,000 people living with epilepsy in BC and their families and seeks to raise the awareness of epilepsy around the world. If you would like to learn more about seizures and epilepsy; find out more about the BC Epilepsy Society and the programs and services that we offer; or receive support for yourself or a loved one living with epilepsy, please visit www.bcepilepsy.com or contact us at 604-875-6704 or at info@bcepilepsy.com.

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