



**BC Epilepsy
Society**

E-NEWSLETTER

*Improving lives.
Inspiring courage.*

September 23, 2014

Lecture on Epilepsy and Genetics

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH

For most types of epilepsy the cause is unknown. However, scientists believe that genetic factors play an important role. In the last decade, substantial progress has been made in the identification of genes that influence risk for some forms of epilepsy.

These advances have the potential to offer new means of diagnosing, preventing, treating, and potentially curing some types of epilepsy.

You can learn more about this at our lecture, Epilepsy and Genetics. The speaker will be Dr. Michelle Demos, a neurologist who is also a clinical geneticist.

Epilepsy and Genetics Lecture:

Tuesday, September 30th

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Chan Centre for Family Health Education, Room 2108

Children's and Women's Health Centre of BC

4408 Oak Street, Vancouver, BC

This event is \$10 or free with a current BC Epilepsy Society membership.

For more information and to RSVP please contact the BC Epilepsy Society at 604-875-6704 or at info@bcepilepsy.com

On Monday, October 20th we will be hosting a lecture at the same venue about epilepsy and memory. On November 18th we will be hosting a lecture about epilepsy medications.

Shakin' Not Cured

A FUND RAISER FOR THE BC EPILEPSY SOCIETY

Bond. James Bond. The movies about this dashing and mysterious secret service agent are the theme of our fund raising gala, Shakin' Not Cured.

His signature line about ordering his martini as "shaken not stirred" was the inspiration for the name.

Our second Shakin' Not Cured gala fund raiser is on Thursday, November 6th in The Loft at Earls Yaletown (1095 Mainland Street).

Tickets are \$100 and include:

- A partial tax receipt
- Your first drink
- Hors D'Ouerves
- Live entertainment
- Access to premium auction items
- And James Bond themed surprises...

Doors open at 6:30 pm and the festivities will start at 7 pm.

This is a great opportunity to wear your best cocktail or Bond-inspired attire. Please note that due to licensing regulations this event is for ages 19 and up.

Funds raised go towards the programs, services, and research funded by the BC Epilepsy Society.

We are currently collecting auction items for this event. Please submit our [auction donation form](#) if you have items that you would like to donate.

Our last event sold out, so please order your tickets early to avoid disappointment. You can order tickets or donate auction items by contacting our office at 604-875-6704 Ext. 12 or at laari@bcepilepsy.com

News Updates

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

Benefits of Omega-3

A new study has shown that a small sample of people with intractable epilepsy who took low doses of omega-3 fish oil experienced a 33.6% reduction of seizures over a period of 10 weeks as compared to a placebo. The study was published in the Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery & Psychiatry and conducted by a team led by Christopher DeGiorgio, MD, from the Department of Neurology at the UCLA School of Medicine.

DeGiorgio stated, "It's too early to make any definitive statements, but I am excited about what we found and what the future may hold." [Click here](#) to read an overview of the study.

Epilepsy Information for Schools

The beginning of or re-entry into school can be a time of big change for children with epilepsy. To assist you in this transition we provide a variety of school resources and services. These include: materials specifically for teachers, seizure awareness workshops, and classroom resource kits. [Click here](#) for tips to help you navigate through the school support system and advocate for your child.

Perampanel Approved for BC Pharmacare Coverage

The epilepsy medication called perampanel (Fycompa is the brand name) has been approved for coverage by BC Pharmacare. This will reduce the cost of this medication for many people in BC. This medication will be covered for people with partial-onset seizures who have failed four other epilepsy medications, take it concurrently with another epilepsy medication, and are over 18. [Click here](#) for information about perampanel.

New Blog Post About Having Epilepsy

Our latest blog entry is a personal story from a guest contributor. In her entry she speaks about her experiences in living with epilepsy and the insights it has given her. She says, "I may have Epilepsy, but it sure as hell doesn't have me." [Click here](#) to read.

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The BC Epilepsy Society is a non-profit, charitable organization, which provides education, advocacy, and support.