

What is epilepsy?

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xB_C2SeK1BI

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_S._Duncan

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GlfRaJ_3uSU

I'm John Duncan, I'm a _____ at the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, and I also work as Professor of neurology at UCL [University College London] and as Medical Director of the National Society for Epilepsy at Chalfont. In general there's very poor public _____ about epilepsy and there's a huge need for people to understand what epilepsy is, what _____ it and how it's treated. To get an idea of the _____ of the problem, thirty thousand people a year _____ epilepsy in the UK, eighty people a day. Now, two thirds of those will do well. They will take medicine and the disease will _____ under control. And life will pretty much return to normal. For about one third of them, though, that's about ten thousand a year, the epilepsy is more _____ to treat, and even with combinations of drugs the people may carry on having seizures. There's a whole wide _____ of epileptic seizures. What people generally think of as an epileptic seizure is the _____, when somebody goes stiff, they've perhaps _____ at the mouth, fall to the ground, arms and legs are jittering, they may bite their tongue, pass urine and be _____ for some minutes, and then come around afterwards. But that's only the most severe form of epileptic seizure. There're many other _____ that are less severe and perhaps wouldn't easily be recognised. So for example, somebody may have attacks that only give rise to a strange feeling in the stomach, or [a] feeling of déjàvu, of having been there before, _____ just a few seconds, and that's all that happens. So that somebody with that person wouldn't know anything that happened. That'd be one of those _____ forms of epilepsy. Or, again, somebody might have an episode where there's just some jerking, some _____ of a thumb. Or it may be something called an absence, whereby somebody simply goes _____, wouldn't know what was happening, stare vacantly for one or two seconds and then is back to normal. So there's a whole range of different kinds of epileptic seizures, whole range of _____. If anybody has a concern that they may have epilepsy, the first thing to do is to see their general practitioner to explain the symptoms, and the GP then - if they think that epilepsy is a possibility - is likely to _____ them to a specialist. That should be someone known as a neurologist who deals with [the] _____ affecting the brain and the nervous system. And there're neurology clinics in every district _____ hospital throughout the country where they would be seen and [their] history would be gone over and have [an] examination and then have the _____ tests to see if this is the correct diagnosis and what might be causing it. And then they would be able to decide if indeed epilepsy was thought to be the cause, what medicine would be the most _____ thing to take. Now, there are a lot of medicines that we can _____, they make seizures less likely to occur and people have to be clear that this is _____ treatment, it isn't like taking antibiotics for [an] infection, we take it for five, ten days, then right over, everything's fixed. This would be similar to, say, taking _____ for somebody with diabetes, the treatment, once started, is going to be long-term. Usually for at least two or three years and for many people many years longer from [than] that. So it's important that the treatment is well-_____. So the overall outlook for most people is good. They will have the seizures, it'll be _____, it'll be treated and life can pretty much then go back to normal.

Mark's story

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LF8J6yF850k>

When was Mark diagnosed with epilepsy?

Where is the place of origin of Mark's seizures?

How often does Mark get the seizures?

What exactly happens to Mark during a seizure?

How long are his seizures?

Which area of Mark's life is affected the most by epilepsy?

When diagnosed with epilepsy, what did Mark have to stop doing first?

What are the side effects that Mark mentions?

When is Mark going to have a surgery of his brain?

What does Mark expect from the operation?