Epilepsy Surgery in 2013

A total of 42 surgeries were performed in 2013, resulting in the following outcomes:

- 80% seizure free
- 10% improved but not seizure free
- 10% not significantly improved
- 0% worse
- No significant complications

Contact information (available and accessible)

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Recent Publications


Patient Education

- Available at http://epilepsy.usf.edu
- Understanding seizures and epilepsy
- Psychogenic seizures (English & Spanish)
- Epilepsy surgery (English & Spanish)
- Idiopathic generalized epilepsy (English & Spanish)
Meet our Research Coordinator:
Tara McTigue, RN

- Tara obtained her RN at St Petersburg College in 2001

- She became a Certified Clinical Research Coordinator in 2003.

- Tara has coordinated multiple industry-sponsored and investigator-initiated studies in multiple therapeutic areas including: DVT prophylaxis, Kidney Transplant, Liver Transplant, Hepatitis C, Epilepsy & Stroke.

- In 2011, she joined USF’s Neurology team.

Clinical Trials

**Completed in 2012-2013**
- Eslicarbazepine
- Intravenous carbamazepine
- Brivaracetam
- Vimpat for IGE
- Perampanel for IGE
- Sabril Vision Study

**Ongoing for 2014**
- Midazolam Intranasal Spray
- Automatic Magnet Mode VNS Therapy

A typical surgery success story:

Kimberly

In her own words:

"Thank you so much for your encouragement to have a craniotomy. I was so apprehensive about it but because of my epilepsy I could not drive and work was very difficult because of my memory problems and auras. Since the surgery, my memory has improved, I am taking less medication and I have not had any auras or seizures in 2 years! The surgery was a miracle, I was in the hospital for only one night! I had very few headaches afterwards, used a painkiller for just a few weeks and only took ibuprofen as needed after that. The scar is invisible, my confidence has improved and I couldn’t be happier with the results. I would definitely encourage other candidates to have the procedure, it saved my life."

Kim was 24 year-old when she presented to us in 2011. Her seizures started in 2003 after a viral encephalitis, and quickly became uncontrolled despite medications. Interictal EEG showed right temporal sharp waves, maximum at T4-F8. Ictal recordings: 9 seizures were recorded. Clinically, she had her aura (nausea or fear or deja vu), left upper extremity dystonic posturing and left facial clonic activity, oral automatisms, and at times ictal speech. On EEG, there was a right temporal rhythmic ictal pattern (sharp theta) with evolution. MRI showed an extensive right temporo-occipital lesion (gliosis). PET scan shows right hemisphere hypometabolism.

The conclusion was that she had neocortical focal epilepsy arising from the right temporo-occipital region, secondary to an area of gliosis. In December 2011, she had a focal resection assisted with intraoperative electrocorticography.
Tennis Anyone?
Dr. Benbadis’s Ranking

- USTA (www.usta.com)
  - Mens 50s Division

- Year 2012
  - Florida #1
  - National #22

- Year 2013
  - Florida #2
  - National #12

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