



## Epilepsy medicines

**Easy  
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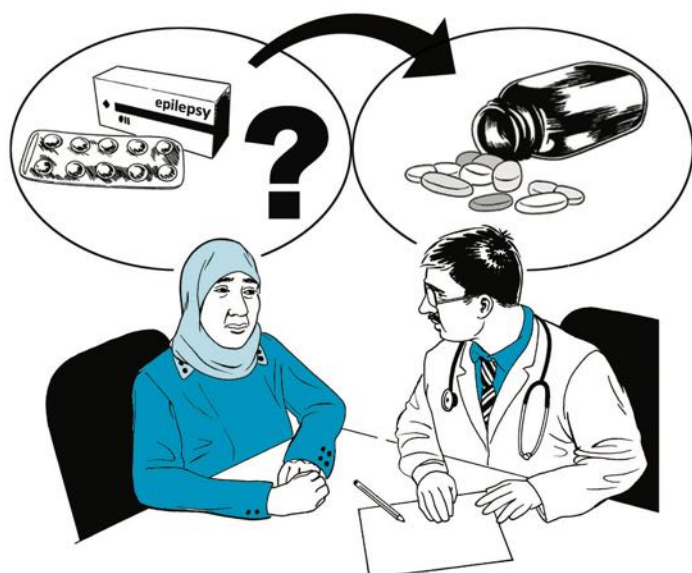
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# Epilepsy medicines



Most people who have fits need to take medicine to help the fits stop. Sometimes the medicine will stop all the fits. Sometimes it may only stop some of them.



## Is there a medicine that can work for me?

The doctor will try and find an epilepsy medicine that is the right one for you. If the first one doesn't seem to work, they might give you a different epilepsy medicine.



If that doesn't work, they may try giving you two epilepsy medicines to take at the same time.



## Is there anything else besides medicine to stop my fits?

Some people can have brain surgery.



Some people have a special diet.



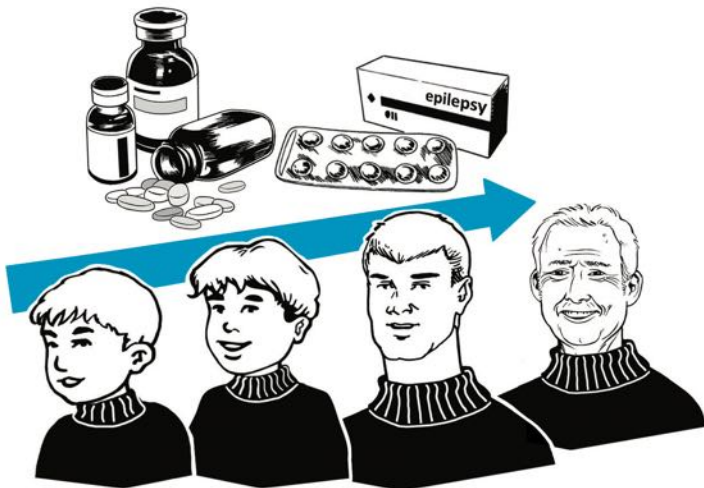
## Emergency medicines

If you have a fit that goes on for a long time, or you have one fit after the other, you might need some emergency medicine.





This is something that someone can put in your mouth or up your nose to help stop the fit happening. Sometimes you will have to go to hospital.



### Will I have to take my medicine for ever?

Most people have to take their epilepsy medicine all their lives. Your doctor will be able to tell you if this is true for you.



### Will my epilepsy medicine make me feel poorly?

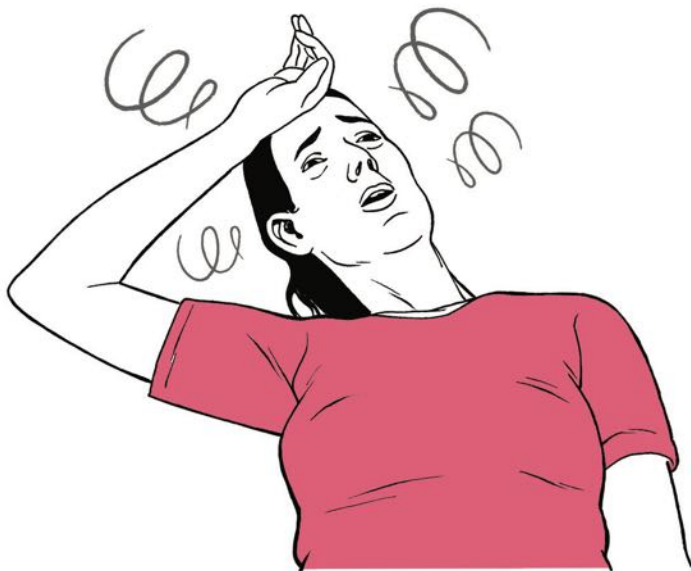
When you start taking epilepsy medicine or when you take a bigger dose of your medicine, you can feel poorly for a while. If this happens because of the medicine it is called a side-effect. Usually this goes away.



Sometimes side-effects can stay.

Here are some side-effects you might have:

- Feeling tired



- Feeling dizzy



- Having a headache

These are just some possible side-effects. There are lots more.



Make sure you tell someone if you are feeling poorly. The doctor or nurse may be able to do something about this.



Write down in a diary when you have a fit and what epilepsy medicine you are taking and if you are feeling poorly. Get help to do this if you need to.



Show your diary to your doctor or nurse.



**Where can I get a fit (seizure) diary?**

**Epilepsy Action Helpline**

**Freephone 0808 800 5050**



**Where can I go if I want to find out more about epilepsy?**

**Epilepsy Action Helpline**

**Freephone 0808 800 5050**



**Epilepsy Action website:**

**[www.epilepsy.org.uk](http://www.epilepsy.org.uk)**



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[www.changepeople.org](http://www.changepeople.org)



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We'd love to know what you think of this leaflet

