

Epilepsy In Pregnancy



More than 9 out of 10 people with epilepsy have healthy pregnancies and healthy babies



Why is epilepsy management important?



Prevent Seizures

If seizures are not well managed there may be:

- Risks of injury
- Risk of less oxygen to you and your baby
- Risk of preterm labour



Medication May Need to Change

Pregnancy can affect how some medications work which can lead to:

- Breakthrough seizures
- Increased risk of complications



Support Baby's Development

Poor seizure control can increase risks of:

- Developmental challenges
- Lower birth weight
- NICU admission



It's recommended to plan your pregnancy at least 1 year ahead if possible to ensure management of epilepsy and its treatment.

Medication During Pregnancy

Adjusting treatment is the main way to lower risks during pregnancy. Many medications are available including:

Often Preferred



Lamotrigine



Levetiracetam

Sometimes Used



Carbamazepine

Only if needed



Valproate/ Valproic Acid



Do not start, change, or stop your medication without medical advice. Your healthcare provider will help choose the best option for you and your baby.

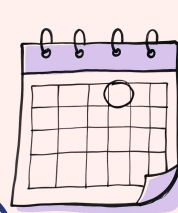
Talk to your healthcare professional if you:



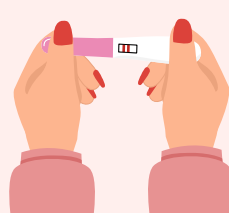
Have epilepsy



Take anti-seizure medication



Plan a pregnancy



Think you may be pregnant

And

Managing your epilepsy early support you and your baby's health.

