Do you have a child with epilepsy?
Do you work with children with epilepsy?
Are you a paediatrician?
Or health professional?

Don’t miss this opportunity to find out more about the emerging treatments for childhood epilepsies from international, interstate and local experts in the field.

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL
Places will be limited. To reserve your seat, please complete the Registration Form overleaf.

2012 Epilepsy Queensland Seminar
Emerging Treatments for Childhood Epilepsy
Saturday 2 June 2012

INTRODUCING SPEAKER—
Dr Lakshmi Nagarajan

9.30 am
Registrations with morning tea

10.00 am—11.00 am
Dr Lakshmi Nagarajan
New avenues in childhood epilepsy

11.00 am—11.30 am
Kim Bennett, Education Queensland
Negotiating the school system
• What is the best way to make sure my child is safe at school?
• What is the role of school nurses and management plans?
• What support is available for children just with a diagnosis of epilepsy but perhaps with memory difficulties; behavioural issues and reduced cognitive speeds?
• What to do if your child is being excluded from swimming lessons; school excursions or camps.

11.30 am—12.00 pm
Dr Karin Borges
Diet Therapies ‘what are the options?’

12.00 pm—1.00 pm
Lunch

1.00 pm—2.00 pm
Dr Robert Campbell
Epilepsy Surgery & VNS—Perhaps not as a last resort as once considered

2.00 pm—3.00 pm
Professor Harry McConnell
Dealing with challenging behaviours / Strategies that might help

3.00 pm
Finish

PROGRAM

Where
Princess Alexandra Hospital
‘Russell Strong Auditorium’
199 Ipswich Road, Woolloongabba

Cost
Free for Financial Members & $50 Non-Members
(includes lunch and morning tea)

Dr Robert Campbell
Kim Bennett

Dr Karin Borges
Kim Bennett

Prof Harry McConnell
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Program may be changed without notice
About our Speakers

Dr Lakshmi Nagarajan heads the Department of Neurology at Princess Margaret Hospital for Children and directs the Child and Adolescent Epilepsy Program. She is a Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Western Australia, Perth. Lakshmi was the Vice President of the Epilepsy Society of Australia and is currently the chair of the education sub-committee of the ESA. Lakshmi has trained and worked in three continents: Australia, India and North America. Her areas of clinical research include neonatal seizures, epilepsy and neurophysiology.

Professor Harry McConnell is a Neuropsychiatrist with over 25 years experience and particular expertise in epilepsy. Before medical school, Professor McConnell worked in special education and also in activities such as the Special Olympics and related recreational programmes for people with acquired and developmental brain disorders. Professor McConnell studied Psychology and completed both medical school and a fellowship in chronic pain management in the USA.

Dr Karin Borges studied Biology at the University of Freiburg (Germany) and received a PhD in Neurobiology at Heidelberg University in 1994. She became an independent researcher in 2005 and, since then, has managed her own laboratory, studying epilepsy and new approaches and mechanisms to treat this complex disorder of the brain. During this time she became an expert in the ketogenic diet in animal models, receiving grants from the NIH and several non-profit epilepsy foundations in the USA (Epilepsy Foundation and Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy). In 2009 she began working as a lecturer at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, teaching Biomedical Science and Pharmacy students. Since then, she has worked on a new dietary and a new anti-inflammatory treatment for epilepsy. Dr Borges has applied for three patents. Her most important finding is that a synthetic edible oil protects mice from seizures. Together with Prof Terence O’Brien, Dr Borges is currently running a randomized Phase IIa clinical trial at the Royal Melbourne Hospital to investigate if this oil is safe, tolerable and effective as a new add-on treatment for epilepsy.

Dr Robert Campbell trained in neurosurgery in Australia and New Zealand before undertaking further subspecialty training in paediatric and cranofacial neurosurgery at the Alder Hey Hospital in Liverpool, United Kingdom. He has appointments as a consultant neurosurgeon at the Princess Alexandra, Mater Children’s and Mater Private Hospital Brisbane.

Dr Campbell’s special interests include image guided surgery for complex brain and pituitary tumours, surgery for epilepsy, Vagal Nerve Stimulation (VNS) and pain management.

Kim Bennett is a General and Midwifery Nurse who has travelled Australia and UK working in a variety of hospitals and nursing settings, developing a broad skill base. In 1984, and again in 1994, Kim worked closely with people with a disability and became actively interested in improving the support and services available. Kim worked with Dr Robyn Wallace on research projects concerning management of refractory epilepsy and complex health issues common to individuals with multiple disabilities. Kim currently works for the Department of Education, Training and Employment as the Nurse Manager delivering state-wide services that aim to build the capacity of schools to support students with specialised health needs.