

EPILEPSY *queensland*



What is Epilepsy?

- A neurological condition characterised by recurrent seizures due to temporary disruption of electrical activity in the brain.
- 40+ types of epilepsy and 70+ seizure types – not all convulsive





**EVERY
33 MINUTES
A LIFE IS
TURNED
UPSIDE
DOWN
BY EPILEPSY**

Epilepsy Prevalence

- 1% or 250,000 Australians currently live with epilepsy
- 30,000 Queenslanders currently live with epilepsy
- 1 in 25 Australians will be diagnosed with epilepsy in their lifetime.

Living with Epilepsy

- Cognitive impacts
- Tiredness / fatigue
- Medication side effects
- Driving / independence
- Mental health
- Stigma / culture
- Employment / schooling





EMPLOYMENT

45% of adults diagnosed with epilepsy will experience a change to their employment.



EDUCATION

Students with epilepsy have a 78% higher risk of not completing Year 10 and are three times more likely to score below national average on NAPLAN.

*“...when it comes to employment, it is not the seizure control failure that is the limiting factor. **The simple declaration of being a person living with epilepsy works as a social barrier, often an insurmountable one.**”*

The Perceived Social Stigma of People with Epilepsy with regard to the Question of Employability (2018)

Epilepsy Smart Australia Program

- Collaborative national partnership between epilepsy providers
- Up to date, nationally consistent information and advice
- National Epilepsy Support Service
- Free education, EMPs and support to individuals and families
- Epilepsy Smart organisations

**“With Epilepsy Smart,
people with epilepsy
will become more
confident and feel
safer than ever.”**



Epilepsy Smart Organisations

- Epilepsy Smart Workplaces: e-learning with 3 modules
- F2F training with Epilepsy Educators



 **4,800+**
hours training to
organisations

 **2,500+**
people trained

WHO WE WORK WITH



Health



Disability



Education

EPILEPSY
queensland

Is your organisation Epilepsy Smart?

Expert advice and resources are now
available together, for all organisations.

 epilepsysmart.org.au

National Epilepsy Support Service
1300 761 487



Australian Government
Department of Health

The Epilepsy Smart Australia Program received
funding from the Australian Government.