



Established Status Epilepticus Treatment Trial (ESETT)

Status Epilepticus (SE) is a seizure lasting longer than five minutes without stopping on its own. A person whose seizure does not stop despite receiving a full dose of medicine (benzodiazepines) to make it stop is considered to have Established Status Epilepticus (ESE). ESE is a life threatening emergency.

ESETT is a research study designed to try to save and improve the lives of people who experience established status epilepticus (ESE). Emergency department (ED) care of these patients is not the same everywhere. Doctors use their judgement, but what treatment works best is not known. This study plans to look at three commonly used medicines given in the emergency departments for ESE: fosphenytoin (fPHT), valproic (VPA), and levetiracetam (LVT) to learn which treatment is most effective at stopping a seizure quickly.

Normally, researchers get permission before a person can be included in research. A person having a seizure will not be able to give consent. Since a seizure that will not stop on its own must be treated quickly, there will not be enough time to locate and talk to the person's legal representative about the study, so the person will be enrolled in the study without his/her legal representative's consent. This is called "Exception from Informed Consent" (EFIC).

Dr. Claude Hemphill, the BASIC clinical research staff and researchers nationally hope to find out the best way to treat ESE. It will take place in the emergency departments of SF General, UCSF and Benioff Hospitals along with approximately 40 other EDs in the United States. ESETT is expected to begin in the fall of 2015.

ESETT is a blinded, multi center, randomized trial and is funded by the National Institutes of Health.

If you would like more information about the study or would like to decline participation, please go to our website or contact us by e-mail or phone. We would be happy to answer any questions you have.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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