We provide the most advanced care for patients with seizures that are difficult to control. The program meets and exceeds the guidelines of the National Association of Epilepsy Centers for a 4th (highest) level medical and surgical center.

The program is one of only 4 centers in Florida with this level of expertise, and as of 2002 we are the highest volume surgical center.

FACULTY/PHYSICIANS

- Selim R. Benbadis, MD
  Professor of Neurology
  Director

- Fernando Vale, MD
  Associate Professor of Neurosurgery, Surgical Director

- William O. Tatum IV, DO
  Affiliate Professor of Neurology

- S. Parrish Winesett, MD
  Assistant Professor, Child Neurology

- José Ferreira, MD
  Affiliate Assistant Professor, Child Neurology

- Nancy Rodgers-Neame, MD, Neurology

CONTACTS

- Selim R. Benbadis, MD  sbenbadi@health.usf.edu
- Valerie Kelley, RN, Nurse Coordinator: 813/844-4675, vkelley@tgh.org
- Marisol Ruiz, Administrative Assistant: 813/844-7931, mruizmartinez@tgh.org
- Beverly Uliasz, R.EEG.T, Team Leader, Buliasz@tgh.org; 813/844-7931

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YEAR 2007 STATS

**Epilepsy surgery**
- A total of 56 surgeries were performed in 2007
- 40 patients (75%) are seizure free
- 10 (17%) are markedly improved but not completely seizure free
- 5 (8%) are not significantly improved
- None are worse
- No significant complications

**EEG-Video monitoring**
- Over 300 patients underwent prolonged EEG-video monitoring
- 11 were invasive EEG recordings with subdural electrodes

**Other EEGs**
- Over 1900 routine EEGs
- Over 140 ambulatory EEGs

**Vagus Nerve Stimulation (VNS)**
- VNS is the treatment of choice for patients with medically intractable epilepsy who are not candidate for resective surgery
- EEG-video monitoring should always be performed prior to VNS implantation
- Over 45 patients were implanted in 2007

**Neuropsychology**
- Adele Haber, PhD, TGH neuropsychologist for the epilepsy program (full-time)
- Jessica Vassalo, PhD: child neuropsychologist

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**Welcome Dr. Winesett**
- S. Parrish Winesett, MD, has been a child neurologist in the Tampa Bay area for over 10 years.
- In a brave change of career, he joined the program as an one-year Epilepsy Fellow. He is spending 6 months at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, OH, and 6 months here at USF/TGH.
- As of July 1, 2008, he will be the USF-All Children’s Hospital Pediatric Epileptologist and will develop the pediatric side of the program.

**Welcome Valerie Kelley, RN**
- Valerie joined the program in November 2006 as the Nurse coordinator.
- She is a graduate of the St. Francis School of Nursing in Hartford, CT, and has worked primarily in mental health for 30 years.
- “I have a very special opportunity to be part of a service that impacts the lives of our patients and families in ways I never imagined.”

**Meet one of our patients**
- Alicia had febrile seizures at the age of 3, and epilepsy at age 8. Seizures were uncontrolled with medications. She has been seizure free since her surgery of January 2007.
- “I have had epilepsy for 36 years and have not gone a day without medications. Since surgery, I haven’t had one seizure, and my medication intake is slowly decreasing.”

**Contact information**
Our goal is to be available and accessible to people who need us:
- Valerie Kelley, RN: 813-844-4675 or vkelley@tgh.org
- Marisol Ruiz: 813-844-7931 or mruizmartinez@tgh.org
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http://epilepsy.usf.edu