

Project ECHO® (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes)

Project ECHO®: Epilepsy Across the Life Span

Epilepsy is the 4th most common neurological condition and affects more than 65 million people worldwide. The rate of new cases of epilepsy gradually declines after age 10 but starts to increase after age 55. Factors such as race, age and health conditions increase the risk of developing epilepsy and seizures. Community clinicians often struggle with caring for people with epilepsy due to the complexities of treatment and the psychiatric conditions that can accompany this disorder. However, early diagnosis and treatment often results in improved outcomes with fewer complications. *Epilepsy Foundation, 2015*

Why an Epilepsy TeleECHO™ Clinic?

- Epilepsy and seizures affect nearly 3 million Americans of all ages, at an estimated annual \$15.5 billion in direct and indirect costs
- Seizures and epilepsy are more common in older people and young children and can develop in any person at any age
- Better access to specialty care and comprehensive systems of care to improve early detection and treatment

How to Participate?

- Present patient case via telephone or videoconference
- Participate in didactic presentation
- Complete periodic surveys evaluating practice style, knowledge, and self-efficacy related to treating epilepsy

Weekly TeleECHO Clinic

- **Tuesdays, 12:00 noon – 1:30 pm MT**
- Join by Zoom, Telephone, or onsite!

Interdisciplinary Team Includes:

- Bruce Fisch, MD
Epilepsy Center Director
- Mikiko Yamada, PharmD, Ph.C, MS
Clinical Pharmacist
- Mona Chaney, BSN, RN
Epilepsy Program Coordinator



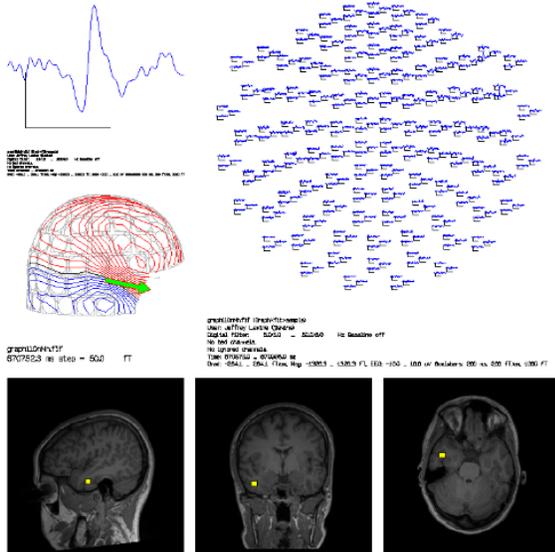
Benefits for Participating Clinicians:

- Gain up-to-date information on multi-disciplinary Epilepsy Management
- Collaborate and interact with colleagues
- Physicians, pharmacists, mid-level providers, nurses, counselors and social workers receive continuing education credits (CME, CEU, CE, and ACPE)
- IT resources and support
- Clinician education materials

Benefits to Patients:

- Access to local sub-specialty care
- Expanded access to resources
- Reduced need to travel outside of their community

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What Clinicians and Partners say about Project ECHO:

"I feel more confident and it makes providing care easier. This project allows for increased opportunities to learn, and patients to get better care."

"Project ECHO connects me to a research community. The teleECHO clinics are the highlight of the week. Professional learning opportunities have expanded."

How Project ECHO Works:

During teleECHO clinics, healthcare clinicians present cases using a case-based format either by telephone or video conferencing equipment. Project ECHO specialist and other participants discuss patient cases and recommendations are made regarding a treatment plan.

Healthcare clinicians hear various case presentations, as well as follow-up and outcomes, and over time greatly increase their knowledge and experience in the treatment of epilepsy. In addition, continuing medical education hours are provided.

What is Project ECHO?

Project ECHO – Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes – is an innovative healthcare program developed to treat chronic and complex conditions in rural and underserved areas of New Mexico. Through the use of technology, Project ECHO bridges the gap between urban healthcare specialist and clinicians in rural settings.

Collaboration between specialist and rural clinicians enables patients to receive state-of-the-art healthcare from the professionals they know and trust in their own communities. For clinicians, mentorship to treat the often lengthy and involved treatments brings added depth and technical competencies and reduces professional isolation. With continued involvement these complex and chronic conditions, thus creating a center of excellence in their community. The end result is better quality and greater access to healthcare for all patients.

National/Regional Partners:

- American Academy of Pediatrics
- NM Pediatric Society
- National Coordinating Center of Epilepsy