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Stereo-EEG Surgery Performed Successfully

By Express News Service - KOCHI | Published: 02nd February 2014 10:38 AM
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Dr Venkat Sadanand, an expert in epilepsy surgery from California, USA, along with AIMS neurosurgeon Dr Ashok Pillai and AIMS neurologist Dr Siby Gopinath have successfully completed Stereo-EEG implantation on a 14-year-old high school student Rashik. He was suffering from frequent epileptic seizures since early childhood and when medicines failed to control his seizures, they opted for surgery. After identifying the seizure focus, the surgery to disconnect the area of the brain responsible for his seizures was performed by Dr Ashok Pillai three days later. After ten days Rashik went home.

Over 100 operations, meant to cure epilepsy, have been completed at the Amrita Advanced Centre for Epilepsy which recently opened at Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences. This technique, known as Stereo-EEG, is used to help pinpoint the origin of epileptic fits in patients who suffer from uncontrolled seizures. Developed in France, this technique utilises stereotaxy or three-dimensional geometric planning based on MRI scans and other data. Fine electrodes are implanted on the brain through very small openings in the head, thus avoiding open surgery for the first stage of the operation. The recently established Amrita Advanced Epilepsy Centre is now one of the leading centres for comprehensive epilepsy care in India, equipped with the latest technology and a team of epileptologists, epilepsy surgeons, radiologists, nuclear medicine physicians, neuropsychologists, neurotechnologists and social workers. The centre conducts public awareness programmes and regional epilepsy clinics in rural areas.

The AIMS telemedicine centre conducts telemedicine consultation across the country and abroad. All surgeries for treating epilepsy are performed including temporal lobectomy, selective temporal lobectomy, excision of lesions, invasive monitoring and guided excision of epileptogenic regions, disconnections (hemispherotomy, regional disconnections), multiple subpial transections.

An estimated 60 lakh individuals suffer from epilepsy in India, of which almost 20 lakh individuals fail to have their seizures controlled adequately with medicines. Among these, at least 12 lakh individuals would benefit with surgery.

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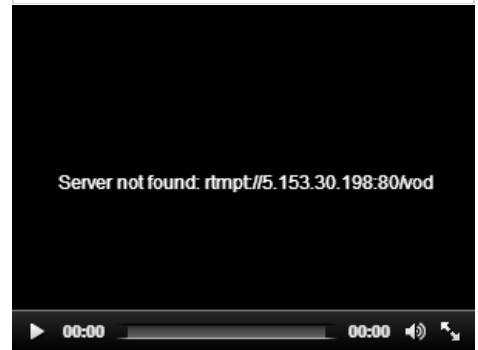


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