Georgia is a Caucasian low- to a middle-income country with a remarkable effort to deal with epileptic diseases, but without an appropriate epilepsy surgery program. To address the needs for such a service in this country, two joint German-Georgian projects were initiated in 2017 and 2019. In the framework of these projects, a productive exchange program involving German and Georgian experts was undertaken in the past two years. This program included training and mentoring for Georgian clinical colleagues, as well as a joint case conferences and workshops with the aim of optimizing presurgical diagnostics and preparing for an epilepsy surgery program in Georgia. Finally, a postsurgical medium- and long-term follow-up scheme was organized as the third component of this comprehensive approach. As a result of the efforts, the first patients underwent anterior temporal lobectomy and all of them remain seizure-free up to the present day. Hence, epilepsy surgery is not only feasible but also already available in Georgia. In a report, Dugladze et al. aimed to share their experiences in the initiation and implementation of surgical epilepsy intervention in Georgia and illustrate the recent endeavor and achievements ¹.

1)

Dugladze T, Bäuerle P, Kasradze S, et al. Initiating a new national epilepsy surgery program: Experiences gathered in Georgia [published online ahead of print, 2020 Jul 1]. Epilepsy Behav. 2020;111:107259. doi:10.1016/j.yebeh.2020.107259

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