

South Carolina

Charleston

Neurodevelopmental and behavioral health disorders commonly occur with [epilepsy](#), yet risk for young adults is unknown. The aim of a study was to determine the distribution and risk characteristics of neurodevelopmental and behavior health comorbidities among young adults with epilepsy compared with those among young adults with migraine and healthy controls.

A case-control study examining hospital admission, outpatient, and emergency department (ED) visits for young adults with an ICD-9-CM diagnosis of epilepsy, migraine, or lower extremity fracture (LEF) was conducted. The association of epilepsy, migraine, or LEF with comorbidities was evaluated with univariate and multivariate polytomous logistic regression.

From 2000 to 2013, 29,139 young adults ages 19 to 25 years were seen in hospitals and EDs for epilepsy (5666), migraine (17,507), or LEF (5966). Young adults with epilepsy had higher proportions of behavioral health comorbidities (51.8%) compared with controls with migraine (37.6%) or LEF (21.6%). In young adults with epilepsy compared with migraine, the increased risk of having any behavioral health comorbidity was 76%, and neurodevelopmental comorbidity was 297%. After adjustment, young adults with epilepsy showed significantly higher odds of each behavioral health comorbidity compared with controls with migraine and LEF.

Young adults with epilepsy are particularly susceptible to behavioral health and neurodevelopmental disorders ¹⁾.

¹⁾

Wagner JL, Wilson DA, Kellermann T, Smith G, Malek AM, Wannamaker B, Selassie AW. Behavioral health in young adults with epilepsy: Implications for transition of care. *Epilepsy Behav.* 2016 Nov 6;65:7-12. doi: 10.1016/j.yebeh.2016.09.028. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 27829187.

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