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For Epilepsy Caregivers • November 23, 2015

EDITOR'S PEN

Gary Barg, Editor-in-Chief

For Epilepsy Caregivers

One of the most important lessons we have learned over the past 20 years of supporting family caregivers is that once you have seen one caregiving family, you have seen one caregiving family. There are no two situations that are exactly alike. And, as it is important to be able to spend time with our fellow caregivers, no matter what issues they are dealing with, there are times that sharing with a community of people whose loved ones have the same diagnosis as your loved one is truly important. One such time is when your loved one is living with epilepsy. Because November is National Epilepsy Awareness Month, this discussion is certainly most timely.

According to the Wikipedia, "Epilepsy is a group of neurological diseases characterized by epileptic seizures. Epileptic seizures are episodes that can vary from brief and nearly undetectable to long periods of vigorous shaking. In epilepsy, seizures tend to recur, and have no immediate underlying cause while seizures that occur due to a specific cause are not deemed to represent epilepsy." The onset of epilepsy is most common during early childhood and after age 60, but the condition can occur at any age. In fact, over the years, we have spoken with caregivers of parents, spouses, children and grandchildren living with Epilepsy.

The good folks at C Space have created such a community called *The Epilepsy Idea Space* which provides a special opportunity to have a voice in helping improve people's healthcare experience when it comes to epilepsy. If you

qualify, you will join a private online group sponsored by a major pharmaceutical company of about 250 other members like you to explore ways to ease the journey and experience with epilepsy.

They have created a space to share your story and impact the future treatment, awareness, and education about epilepsy. Anyone who has been diagnosed with epilepsy, or is a caregiver to someone who has been diagnosed with epilepsy in the last 10 years may qualify for this exclusive online community and can share their journey to help positively influence what comes next.

In addition to providing feedback and building relationships with other members who are going through the same experience, members receive gifts such as monthly Amazon.com e-gift certificates in exchange for their participation each month.

You can sign up today by taking this short online survey

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