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TODAY'S ANALYSIS

(20 November 2024)

TOPICS TO BE COVERED

- NATIONAL EPILEPSY DAY
- RIO DE JANEIRO G20 SUMMIT, 2024
- MCQs



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NATIONAL EPILEPSY DAY

NATIONAL EPILEPSY DAY
17 November

National Epilepsy Day is observed every year on the **17th of November** in India to spread awareness of epilepsy and reduce stigma simultaneously educate people to counter epilepsy disease.

Epilepsy is a neurological condition characterized by irregular brain activity that results in seizures.

Hyderabad, Telangana, India | 040 4848 6868 | pacehospital.com | @pacehospitals | Google | YouTube | Facebook | Twitter | Instagram | Koo | Threads

- **National Epilepsy Day** is observed every year in India on **November 17**.
- The day is dedicated to raising awareness about **epilepsy**, its symptoms, and the challenges faced by those affected by the disease.
- It also emphasizes the importance of **early diagnosis** and **treatment**.
- Epilepsy is a brain disease where nerve cells don't signal properly, which causes seizures.
- Seizures are uncontrolled bursts of electrical activities that change sensations, behaviors, awareness and muscle movements.
- Although epilepsy **can't be cured**, many treatment options are available.

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HISTORY OF NATIONAL EPILEPSY DAY

National Epilepsy Day was established to **highlight the difficulties faced by people suffering from epilepsy**. The day gained **significance in India thanks to the efforts of health organizations such as the Epilepsy Foundation** and other advocacy groups.

- **Initiation:** The day was initiated by the **Epilepsy Foundation of India**, which was founded by **Dr. Nirmal Surya** in **Mumbai** in **2009**.
- **Global Impact:** According to the **World Health Organization (WHO)**, nearly **50 million** people around the world suffer from epilepsy, with India contributing to **10-20 percent** of that global total.

COMMON SIGNS & SYMPTOMS OF EPILEPSY

Epilepsy is **primarily marked by seizures that affect brain function**. The most common symptoms include:

- **Loss of Awareness:** A person may experience a temporary loss of awareness, leading to a **blank stare, confusion**, or unresponsiveness.
- **Uncontrollable Movements:** The person may **experience jerking or muscle contractions that cannot be controlled**.

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- **Cognitive Disruptions:** These can include slowed thinking, confusion, or difficulty concentrating.
- **Sensory Disturbances:** Some may experience altered sensory perceptions, such as dizziness, nausea, or feeling a sense of fear.
- **Psychic Symptoms:** In some cases, individuals might feel intense emotions such as overwhelming fear, or experience hallucinations.

TYPES OF EPILEPTIC SEIZURES

Epileptic seizures can be categorized into two primary types: **Focal Onset Seizures** and **Generalized Onset Seizures**.

1. Focal Onset Seizures:

These seizures start in one specific area of the brain. **There are two types:**

- **Focal Onset Aware Seizure:** The person remains conscious but may experience **involuntary movements** or sensations.
- **Focal Onset Impaired Awareness Seizure:** The person may lose consciousness or **awareness during the seizure**.

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2. Generalized Onset Seizures:

These seizures involve both sides of the brain and can be **further divided into six types:**

- **Absence Seizures:** A brief period of staring or unresponsiveness.
- **Atonic Seizures:** A sudden loss of muscle strength, leading to a person collapsing or falling.
- **Tonic Seizures:** Muscle stiffening that can cause the person to fall or be unable to move.
- **Clonic Seizures:** Repetitive jerking movements.
- **Tonic-clonic Seizures:** A combination of stiffening and jerking movements, often called a "grand mal" seizure.
- **Myoclonic Seizures:** Sudden, brief jerks or twitches, often affecting the arms or legs.

PREVENTION TIPS FOR EPILEPSY

While **epilepsy cannot always be prevented**, there are **several ways to manage the condition and reduce** the likelihood of seizures:

- **Take Medicines on Time:**
 - Medication is crucial in managing epilepsy.
 - People with epilepsy should take their prescribed medication **on time** and follow their

doctor's advice.

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- Regular visits to a **neurologist** are important to help control seizures.
- **Get Enough Sleep:**
 - **Sleep deprivation** can trigger seizures.
 - It is important to maintain a regular sleep schedule and get sufficient rest to minimize the risk of seizures.
- **Avoid Caffeine:**
 - Caffeine can act as a **trigger** for some people with epilepsy.
 - Foods and drinks like **coffee, energy drinks, and soda** contain caffeine, and these should be limited or avoided.
- **Stay Hydrated:**
 - Dehydration can lead to various health issues, including seizures.
 - It is important for individuals with epilepsy to drink **plenty of water** throughout the day.
- **Avoid Flickering Lights:**
 - Certain types of flashing or flickering lights can trigger seizures, especially in children.
 - Individuals with epilepsy should avoid exposure to **flashing lights** from **television screens, computer monitors, or mobile phones.**

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RIO DE JANEIRO G20 SUMMIT, 2024



The 2024 **G20 Rio de Janeiro summit** is the ongoing **19th meeting of Group of Twenty (G20)**, a Heads of State and Government meeting took place at the **Museum of Modern Art** in Rio de Janeiro from 18–19 November 2024.

It is the **first G20 summit to be held in Brazil.**

It also marks the first full G20 summit with the **African Union as a member**, having joined during the G20 during the previous summit in 2023.

AGENDA PRIORITIES

G20 Brazil has put three main agenda priorities for the G20 dialogue in 2024:[2]

- Social inclusion and the fight against hunger
- Energy transition and sustainable development in its social, economic and environmental

aspects

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- Reform of the global governance institutions

ABOUT G20

- **G-20**, was established as a **group of finance ministers and central bank governors** from **19 individual countries and European Union**. It was established in **1999**.
- G20 was elevated to a forum of **Heads of State/Government in 2008** to effectively respond to the **global financial crisis of 2008**.
- G-20 is a **forum, not a legislative body**, its agreements and decisions **have no legal impact**, but they do influence countries' policies and global cooperation.
- G20 members **represent around 80% of global GDP**, over **75% of global trade**, and **66% of the world's population**.
- **G20 members** contribute **79% of the world carbon emissions** and hence this platform assumes significance in shaping the discussion on climate change.
- The **G20 consists of 2 parallel tracks** - the **Finance track**, led by Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors and the **Sherpa track**.
- A **sherpa** is the **personal representative of a head of state or head of government** who **prepares an international summit**, such as the annual G20 summits.

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- Basically, Sherpa track clears the way for a head of state at a major summit.

G20 members



FIVE KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. No Climate Breakthrough

- There were high expectations that the G20 leaders would help to restart the stalled **UN climate talks** happening in **Azerbaijan**.
- However, the **final declaration was underwhelming**.
- In the declaration, the G20 **acknowledged the need for climate finance** to scale up from **billions to trillions of dollars**, but it failed to specify who would provide the funds.

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- Additionally, the G20 **did not reiterate** the commitment made at the **COP28** climate talks in **Dubai** last year for a "**just, orderly, and equitable transition**" away from fossil fuels.
- **Mick Sheldrick**, co-founder of the **Global Citizen** campaign, criticized the lack of progress, stating, "**They haven't stepped up to the challenge.**"

2. Ukraine War

- The war in **Ukraine** was one of the central topics of the summit.
- Just before the summit, the **United States** had granted **Ukraine** approval to use **long-range American missiles** to strike **Russian territory**, raising tensions.
- In response, **Russia** warned that it would take action if its territory was hit.
- **Chinese President Xi Jinping**, along with **Brazil**, has been pushing for **peace talks** between **Ukraine** and **Russia**.
- He called on the G20 to support **efforts to "cool" the war**.
- The G20 leaders, in their final statement, welcomed "**constructive initiatives**" aimed at securing a **comprehensive, just, and durable peace** in Ukraine.
- While they condemned the "**threat or use of force to seek territorial acquisition**," they made no direct mention of **Russian aggression** in their statement, reflecting the differing perspectives within the group.

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3. Lebanon, Gaza Ceasefire Calls

Leaders of the G20, representing diverse political views, made calls for **comprehensive ceasefires** in both **Gaza** and **Lebanon**:

- In **Gaza**, the G20 leaders expressed support for a **US-proposed UN resolution** calling for a permanent ceasefire in exchange for the **release of all hostages** held by **Hamas**.
- In **Lebanon**, the G20 urged for a ceasefire that would allow civilians to return safely to their homes along the **Blue Line**, the demarcation between **Lebanese** and **Israeli** forces.
- **These calls for ceasefire reflected the G20's desire for peace in the Middle East** and its commitment to de-escalating conflicts in these regions.

4. Tax the Super-Rich

- A significant outcome of the summit was the **endorsement of taxing ultra-wealthy individuals**.
- The G20 leaders agreed to work together to ensure that **ultra-high-net-worth individuals** are effectively taxed across nations.
- This was considered a victory for **Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva**, who had prioritized the issue.

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- However, the declaration stressed that such international cooperation on tax policies should be done **"with full respect to tax sovereignty"** and should include **debates on tax principles** and measures to combat **tax avoidance**. **Gabriel Zucman**, an economist specializing in inequality, who had been consulted by Brazil for the G20 presidency, hailed the decision as **"historic"**, signaling a strong step toward addressing global wealth inequality.

5. Alliance Against Hunger

- One of the main issues championed by **President Lula** was the creation of a **global alliance against hunger**.
- At the summit, **82 countries signed on** to the initiative, making it a major success for Brazil's presidency.
- The alliance seeks to unite international efforts in the fight against hunger and secure financing for anti-hunger programs.
- The alliance aims to **reduce hunger for half a billion people by the end of the decade** and replicate successful programs from different countries.
- Lula, who grew up in poverty, referred to hunger as a **"scourge that shames humanity"** and expressed the urgency of addressing this issue globally.

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MCQs

1. Consider the following statements and mark the correct one:

1. Epilepsy is a brain disorder.
2. Epilepsy is not curable.

- (A) Only 1
(B) Only 2
(C) Both 1 & 2
(D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans. (C)

2. Which of these are symptoms of Epilepsy?

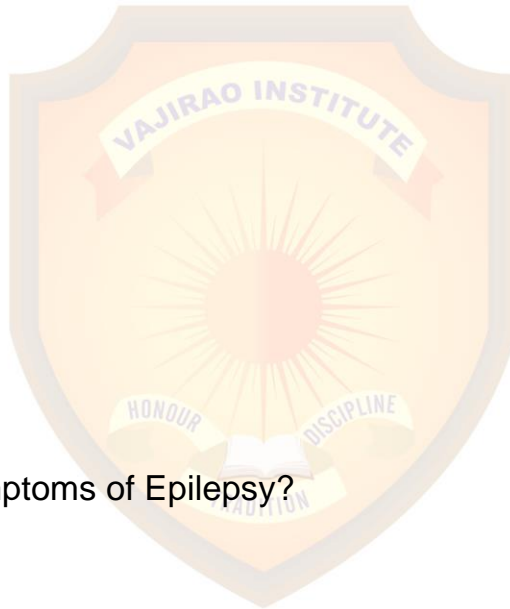
1. Loss of Appetite
2. Loss of Awareness
3. Uncontrollable movements

- (A) Only 1 & 2
(B) Only 2 & 3
(C) Only 1 & 3
(D) Only 2

Ans. (B)

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3. Consider the following statements wrt G20 summit in Brazil, 2024 and mark how many of them are correct?

1. The 2024 summit was the first ever summit in Brazil.
2. African Union joined as a full time member for the first time.
3. Social Inclusion & fight against hunger was one of the priority areas.

- (A) Only 1 statement is correct
- (B) Only 2 statements are correct
- (C) All the statements are correct
- (D) None of the statements are correct.

Ans. (C)

4. Which of the following countries is not part of G20?

- (A) Italy
- (B) South Africa
- (C) Indonesia
- (D) UAE

Ans. (D)

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5. Which of the following is the objective of Global Hunger Alliance formed during Brazil's G20 presidency?
- (A) Eliminate Hunger by 2050
 - (B) Eliminate Hunger by 2030
 - (C) To reduce hunger for half a billion people by 2030.
 - (D) None of the above

Ans. (C)



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