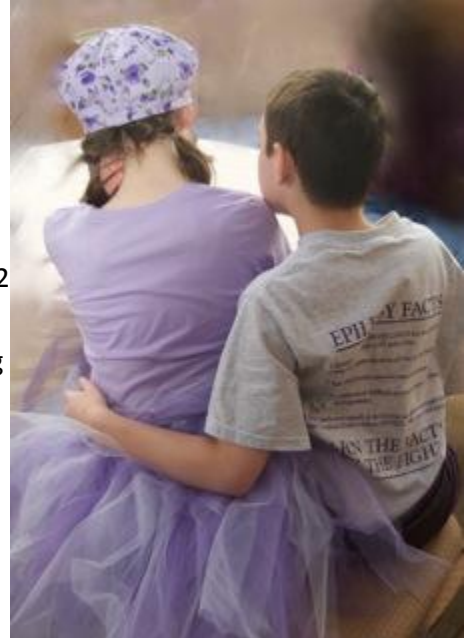


Bringing Us Closer to a Cure: 2012 Highlights

Dravet.org is grateful to everyone who supported our work with our children and families this past year as we seek to find a cure for Dravet syndrome and the related epilepsy spectrum. Together in 2011 we accomplished the following:

- **Developed a new and improved website** with extensive resources for patients, families and medical professionals.
- **Funded two research studies:** 1) furthering the understanding of GABRG2 mutations associated with epilepsy and Dravet syndrome; and 2) assessing the efficacy of Verapamil as an adjunctive therapy for improving seizure control. We also are accepting applications for the 2012 [Derek Rudawsky Research Award](#).
- **Collaborated with NYU's Epilepsy Center** to initiate a study which will assess the incidence, risk factors and pathophysiologic mechanisms leading to SUDEP in a large population of patients with Dravet syndrome.
- **Initiated a Patient Information & Ask the Expert Service** that answers parents' questions, disseminates research findings, and educates parents and medical professionals about the disease.
- **Co-sponsored the April 2011 *Epilepsia* journal**, which features 21 articles that detail the latest research into Dravet syndrome. Abstracts of all of the articles are available on the [Wiley Online Library](#).
- **Co-sponsored an Institute of Medicine study**, which will recommend national priorities and strategies for improving the lives of those with epilepsy, in collaboration with Vision 2020, a consortium of scientific and advocacy organizations focused on the epilepsies.
- **Expanded our program of Centers of Excellence**, now at 14 member centers, toward continued improvement of essential comprehensive treatment for Dravet patients and the conduct of relevant multi-center research.
- **Organized the 45-member Team Dravet** for another strong showing at this year's National Walk for Epilepsy in Washington, DC to raise awareness for epilepsy and the need for more research.
- **Hosted a Dravet syndrome family camp** at the Center for Courageous Kids in Kentucky.



Laura Cossolotto
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