



# EpiCARE

The European Reference Network for  
Rare and Complex Epilepsies

## Newsletter

### February 2026



Stay up to date on our upcoming events, educational and research activities, calls, and news from the coordination team, clinicians, researchers, nurses and Patient Advocate community. Feel free to **forward** this newsletter, and sign up [here](#) to receive it regularly!

### Rare Disease Day: 28 February 2026

## Next webinar


### Updated classification of epileptic seizures

Date: **26 March 2026** / 17pm - 18:30pm  
Speakers: Pr. **Sándor Beniczky**

*Member of the EpiCARE Executive Committee (Aarhus University and Filadelfia Epilepsy Center, Denmark)*



[Register here](#)

 You can now request a **certificate of attendance** after registering for and attending the webinars! Please email the [EpiCARE Helpdesk](#) afterward, and we'll send it to you.

## Latest news

### International Epilepsy Day 2026

Monday, **9th February 2026**, was Epilepsy Day. Many EpiCARE member hospitals organized activities to raise awareness about epilepsy. Several of them shared their photos and experiences with us. **You are a source of pride!** 💜





Photos of other EpiCARE hospitals

At the occasion of the International Rare Disease day, the [European Commission](#) published the 30mn interview of the ERN EpiCARE coordinator gave to the [ILAE](#): a masterclass on how the ERNS work with the support of thousands of experts and the contribution of patient advocates.



## The ERN Coordinators met in Vienna

The Coordinator Group Meeting 2026 was held on 10th and 11th February at **St. Anna Children's Hospital** in Vienna (Austria), hosted by Pr. Ruth LADENSTEIN (Coordinator of the ERN PaedCan and chair of the Coordinators Group). **Alexis Arzimanoglou** and **Belén Trebino**, from EpiCARE, participated in person.



## Upcoming events 2026

### 7th Dianalund International Conference on Epilepsy May 6 - 8 2026 / Køge (Denmark)

The 7th Dianalund International Conference on Epilepsy will take place in Køge, Denmark. This year's meeting will focus on the latest advances in research, diagnosis, and treatment. Abstracts should be sent to [dice@filadelfia.dk](mailto:dice@filadelfia.dk) before **15 March 2026**, and all the details can be found on the website. [Sign up for the meeting here!](#)

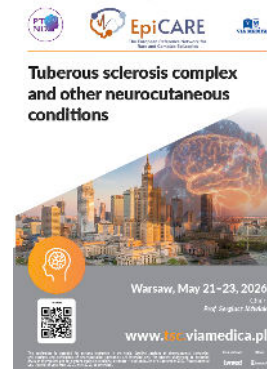


### International Conference on TSC and Other Neurocutaneous Conditions May 21 - 23 2026 / Warsaw (Poland)

Registration is still open for the [International Conference on TSC and Other Neurocutaneous Conditions!](#)

During the Conference a high-class of international speakers will present the current knowledge on diagnosis and therapeutic possibilities in these conditions.

[The program is now available.](#)



**Low registration fee or fee waiver in case of first authorship for residents during the EPiCARE-patronage conference in Warsaw.** Create an account and register via the website. In case of problem please contact [tsc@viamedica.pl](mailto:tsc@viamedica.pl) or [s.jozwiak@ipczd.pl](mailto:s.jozwiak@ipczd.pl).

## European Conference on Rare Diseases & Orphan Products (ECRD)

June 3 - 4th 2026 / Prague (Czech Republic)

[ECRD 2026](#) brings together researchers, clinicians, policymakers, and patient communities to exchange evidence, experience, and ideas that influence practice and policy across Europe.

[Poster abstract submissions](#) for the ECRD 2026 are open **until 6 March 2026!**



## Know EpiCARE Working groups!

### Working Group 3: **Neuroimaging**

*Neuroimaging investigations are fundamental in the diagnosis of patients with epilepsy, in identification of aetiology and in selected cases for surgical planning.*



[WG 3 webpage](#)

## ERN EpiCARE Supporting Next Generation Epilepsy Experts

An important mission of EpiCARE is to support the education and training of young doctors and researchers already working in the field of rare and complex epilepsies. One concrete action toward this aim is [to support EpiCARE members in presenting their work at major scientific congresses in Europe](#). **Congresses available for 2026:**

12th Congress of the European Academy of Neurology

Geneva, Switzerland  
27 - 30 June



16th European Epilepsy Congress

Athens, Greece  
5 - 9 September



In Search of Lost Time  
7 Workshop

Rome, Italy  
11 - 13  
November



## EpiCARE Scientific Publications

### Predictive value of seizure onset for gross motor dysfunction in individuals with pathogenic GABRB2 and GABRB3 variants

The study of Ortiz et al., 2026, with contribution from several ERN EpiCARE centres, demonstrated a clear genotype-phenotype correlation in GABRB2- and GABRB3-related disorders, showing that Gain of Function (GoF) variants are associated with a more severe neurodevelopmental trajectory. The findings provide guidance regarding prognosis, underscore the need of early appropriate intervention and inform about the design of future clinical trials.

[Read it now!](#)



### Evolution of the European Medicines Agency clinical guidelines for epilepsy drug development between 2010 and 2025: A comparative analysis by the ILAE Task Force on Regulatory Affairs

[Read it now!](#)

You can consult recent publications related to the diagnosis and treatment of rare and complex epilepsies on our [scientific publications webpage](#).

### ANYTHING TO SHARE?

Any news you would like to share, events planned, publications in the works? Share with us any information you would like us to include in the next newsletter at [l.roig@epi-care.eu](mailto:l.roig@epi-care.eu)

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