

Attention Veterans

"Traumatic Brain Injury & Epilepsy"

By Dr. Paul Rutecki

Neurologist, UW Hospitals & Clinics and Wm. S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital

Please join us for dinner and a talk and discussion on this important topic of living well with epilepsy.

Monday, May 16, 2011; 6:00 PM

Crowne Plaza

4402 East Washington Avenue, Madison

Cost: \$5.00 per person, includes a full dinner



. . . an Epilepsy UpDate Program by the

Epilepsy Foundation Southern Wisconsin

RSVP: 608-442-5555 or 800-693-2287

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TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY AND POST TRAUMATIC EPILEPSY

The Epilepsy Foundation Southern Wisconsin is hosting a dinner and program on Traumatic Brain Injury & Epilepsy on Monday, May 16th, at the Crowne Plaza in Madison. Dr. Paul Rutecki, Neurologist, (University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics and the William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital) will be the keynote speaker. Cost is \$5 per person. Reservations are required by phone or email.

Often referred to as the “signature wound”, traumatic brain injury has affected more than 300,000 soldiers who have served or are currently serving in the Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom. Studies have shown that between 50-80% of all TBIs are due to blast injuries sustained during combat. Blast injuries from improvised explosive devices can go undetected, leaving brain injuries also undetected until symptoms such as post traumatic epilepsy occurs. Post traumatic epilepsy (PTE) is associated with penetrating head injuries, skull fractures, bruising and swelling of the brain and is the result of a traumatic brain injury (TBI).

Studies have shown that combat veterans may not be aware that a closed head injury may have occurred during the blast of an IED. Symptoms can go unnoticed while a person may look fine even though they may act or feel differently. Symptoms can be delayed and not appear for days or weeks after the initial TBI. A study of veterans of the Vietnam War shows that symptoms can even be delayed for years.

Dr. Rutecki is a professor and vice chair of neurology at the UW – Madison School of Medicine and Public Health. He is affiliated with both the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics and the William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital. He is Chief of Neurology at the Francis Forster Epilepsy Center at the William Middleton VA Hospital, recognized by the Department of Defense as an Epilepsy Center of Excellence.

The Epilepsy Foundation Southern Wisconsin leads the fight to stop seizures, find a cure and overcome challenges created by epilepsy.

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