

Epilepsy drugs may have damaging effects on children's bones

September 20 2017

In a study published in *Epilepsia*, young people taking anti-epileptic drugs experienced elevated rates of bone fractures and had reductions in tibial bone mineral density and lower limb muscle force.

The study included 23 individuals aged 5-18 years who had been taking anti-epileptic drugs for at least 12 months. Each individual was matched to a twin, sibling, or first cousin.

The findings suggest the need to further explore bone health issues in young patients taking anti-epileptic medications.

"These results need to be validated in a larger, longitudinal study investigating the association between anti-epileptic drug exposure and [adverse outcomes](#) in the developing skeleton over time," wrote the authors of the study.

More information: Peter J. Simm et al, Impaired bone and muscle development in young people treated with antiepileptic drugs, *Epilepsia* (2017). [DOI: 10.1111/epi.13893](https://doi.org/10.1111/epi.13893)

Provided by Wiley

Citation: Epilepsy drugs may have damaging effects on children's bones (2017, September 20) retrieved 6 May 2024 from

<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2017-09-epilepsy-drugs-effects-children-bones.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.