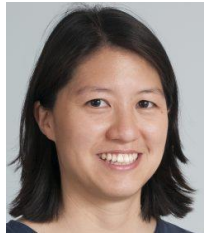


ELUCID Study Newsletter



October 2025



Message from the Director

Dear ELUCID Participants,

On behalf of our entire research team, thank you for being part of the ELUCID Study on late-onset unexplained seizures. Your time, effort, and trust mean a great deal to us. Your participation is essential to helping us better understand this condition and improve care for others in the future.

I'm excited to share the very first edition of our ELUCID Study newsletter. We'll plan to send one each year to keep you updated on our progress, highlight what we're learning from your contributions, and share tips we hope will support your brain health and overall well-being.

There is still so much to learn about why epilepsy sometimes begins later in life without a clear cause, and what that might mean for long-term health. One of the most important aspects of this study is learning from you. Each of you brings a unique experience with seizures, and by sharing that with us — through questionnaires, memory tests, EEGs, MRIs, and blood samples — you're helping us build a clearer, more complete picture. By combining this information, we're working to understand what helps people stay well and what might increase risk for conditions like dementia or stroke. Ultimately, we hope this knowledge will lead to treatments that prevent these outcomes and help people live longer, healthier lives.

Thank you again for being such a vital part of this effort. We're grateful and honored to have your continued partnership and look forward to sharing more with you in the years to come.

With much appreciation,

Alice Lam, MD, PhD

Principal Investigator, ELUCID Study

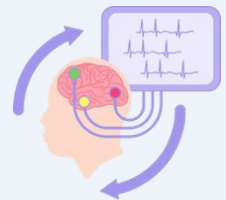
Study Progress



120 people enrolled



7 hospital sites participating



88 EEGs performed



87 MRIs performed



64 completed follow-ups

ELUCID Study Updates

We enrolled our first ELUCID Study participant just over a year ago—on May 31, 2024—and as of July 2025, **109 participants have completed their first study visit**. Much of this first year has focused on launching the study and expanding recruitment across our study sites. Thanks to your participation, we've already begun learning from the data and sharing these early findings with the wider scientific community.

This summer, ELUCID researchers presented our work at two major international conferences. At the **Alzheimer's Association International Conference** in July, Dr. Alice Lam introduced the ELUCID Study and its goals to researchers in the Alzheimer's field, emphasizing the need to connect epilepsy and memory research. At the **International Epilepsy Congress** in August, Dr. Leah Blank and Dr. Emily Johnson (pictured to the right) shared early insights on the causes of seizures in older adults—many of which come directly from data you helped provide.



What We've Learned So Far...

By looking at screening data from the ELUCID study, which included over **2,000 adults aged 55 and older** who were newly diagnosed with epilepsy between 2021 and 2025, we've already uncovered several important findings. Most notably, **in one out of every three cases, the cause of seizures remains unknown**, making unexplained seizures the most common type of epilepsy in older adults.

Among those with a known cause of epilepsy, the most frequent reasons were **stroke (15%)**, **bleeding in the brain (10%)**, and **brain tumors (7%)**. We also found that **stroke was nearly twice as likely to be the cause of epilepsy in Black and Hispanic individuals** compared to White and non-Hispanic individuals—highlighting important differences in how epilepsy develops across different populations.

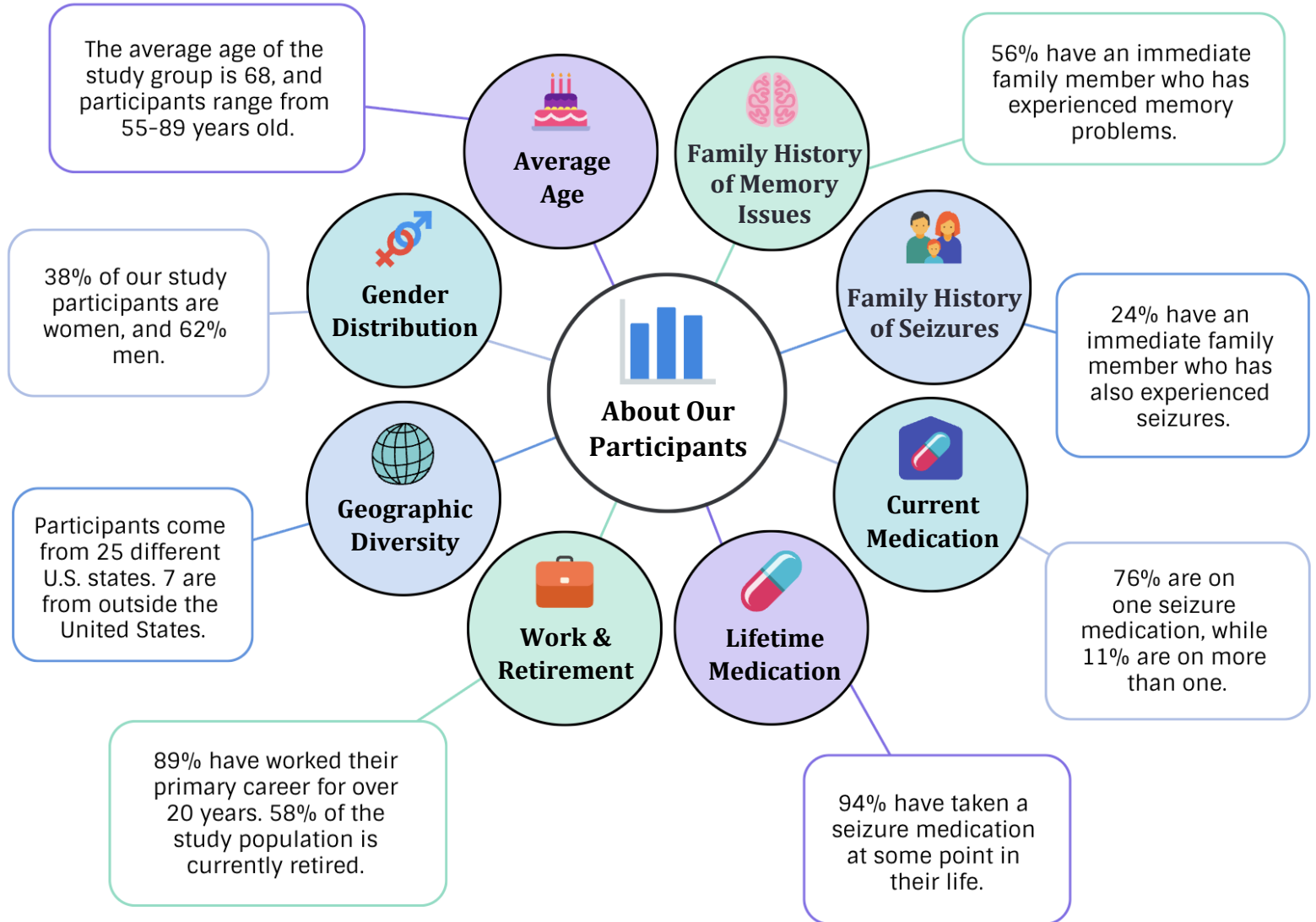
These findings are already helping to reshape our understanding of the causes of epilepsy in later life. The last major study on this topic was conducted more than 30 years ago, before MRI scans were commonly used, and included only ~ 250 older adults. Thanks to your participation, ELUCID is now generating the most current and comprehensive data available—and making it possible to ask new questions that simply couldn't be answered before!

What's Next?

This October, we're hosting a **scientific conference focused on late-onset unexplained epilepsy**, bringing together researchers from around the world to share new ideas and foster collaboration. We'll be presenting ELUCID data there and will send you a summary of what was shared and learned after the event.

A Snapshot of our ELUCID Study Population

Without our study participants, this research would not be possible. As shown below, our study participants come from different walks of life yet share many similarities with one another. We're excited to continue to learn more from our participants as we work together to investigate the causes of unexplained late-onset seizures. Here are some interesting numbers on our current ELUCID study participants:



Resource Roundup!

ELUCID Website:

Learn about what we do, and stay up to date on resources and publications from the study team.

[Click here to explore!](#)

Brain Health Tip:

Physical activity can improve memory, reduce anxiety & depression, and reduce your risk of cognitive decline.

[Click here to learn more!](#)

Seizure Support:

Know what to do and what not to do during a seizure by taking a seizure recognition and first aid course.

[Click here to register!](#)

Study Staff Spotlight: Introducing Kyle Pellerin!



Hi everyone! I am the Project Manager for the ELUCID Study and the Research Coordinator for the Mass General study site. I have been with this study since the beginning and helped put together the questionnaires and data capture systems that we use. I train all of our study coordinators on how to carry out research procedures, to make sure the study is carried out similarly across all study centers. I'm really excited to be part of this team and to support the important work we're doing together—thank you for being such an important part of it!

Q: How long have you been working on the *ELUCID* Team?

I've been working on this study for almost 4 years. I began helping write the protocol, setting up the data collection tools, and getting all of our study sites up and running. These days, I'm still closely involved, working directly with research participants and making sure everything is running smoothly behind the scenes, to keep the study moving forward.

Q: What's your favorite part of working in clinical research?

My favorite part of this project, and working in clinical research overall, is connecting with our participants and working on their behalf. Working as a team with them and hearing their stories and their reasons for wanting to help others is what makes this work so fulfilling. Every participant that I meet reminds me how important this work is.

Q: What would you like to say to the participants reading this newsletter?

I'm deeply grateful to each of you for dedicating your time and effort to this study. Your willingness to participate in this study is what inspires me every day to make this the best study we can, so that we can help as many people as possible.

Q: Tell us a few fun facts about yourself, Kyle!

In college I was the on-ice mascot for the Boston University Ice Hockey teams! These days, outside of the office, I enjoy photography, spending time at the gym, and honing in my cooking skills.



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