### Accepted Manuscript

Title: A systematic review of the risks factors associated with the onset and natural progression of epilepsy

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PII: S0161-813X(16)30030-4

DOI: http://dx.doi.org/doi:10.1016/j.neuro.2016.03.011

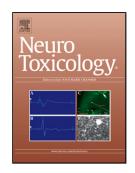
Reference: NEUTOX 1960

To appear in: *NEUTOX* 

Received date: 11-3-2016 Accepted date: 14-3-2016

Please cite this article as: Walsh Stephanie, Donnan Jennifer, Fortin Yannick, Sikora Lindsey, Morrissey Andrea, Collins Kayla, MacDonald Don.A systematic review of the risks factors associated with the onset and natural progression of epilepsy. *Neurotoxicology* http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.neuro.2016.03.011

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Walsh et al. (Epilepsy) Table File

# A Systematic Review of the Risks Factors Associated with the Onset and Natural Progression of Epilepsy

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#### Highlights

- Epilepsy is a neurological disease characterized by recurrent unprovoked seizures.
- Onset of epilepsy can begin at any age, but new cases are more likely to affect
  young children and the elderly. Approximately 0.6% of the Canadian population has
  epilepsy. There are numerous possible risk factors for epilepsy including brain
  injuries and tumors, central nervous system infections, neonatal events such as
  seizures, genetics, and stroke.
- Modifiable risk factors that could be targeted by prevention efforts include alcohol consumption, acquired brain injuries and CNS infections.

#### **Abstract**

Epilepsy is a neurological condition that affects more than 50 million individuals worldwide. It presents as unpredictable, temporary and recurrent seizures often having negative physical, psychological and social consequences. To inform disease prevention and management strategies, a comprehensive systematic review of the literature on risk factors for the onset and natural progression of epilepsy was conducted. Computerized bibliographic databases for systematic reviews, meta-analyses, observational studies and genetic association studies published between 1990 and 2013 describing etiological risk factors for epilepsy was searched.

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