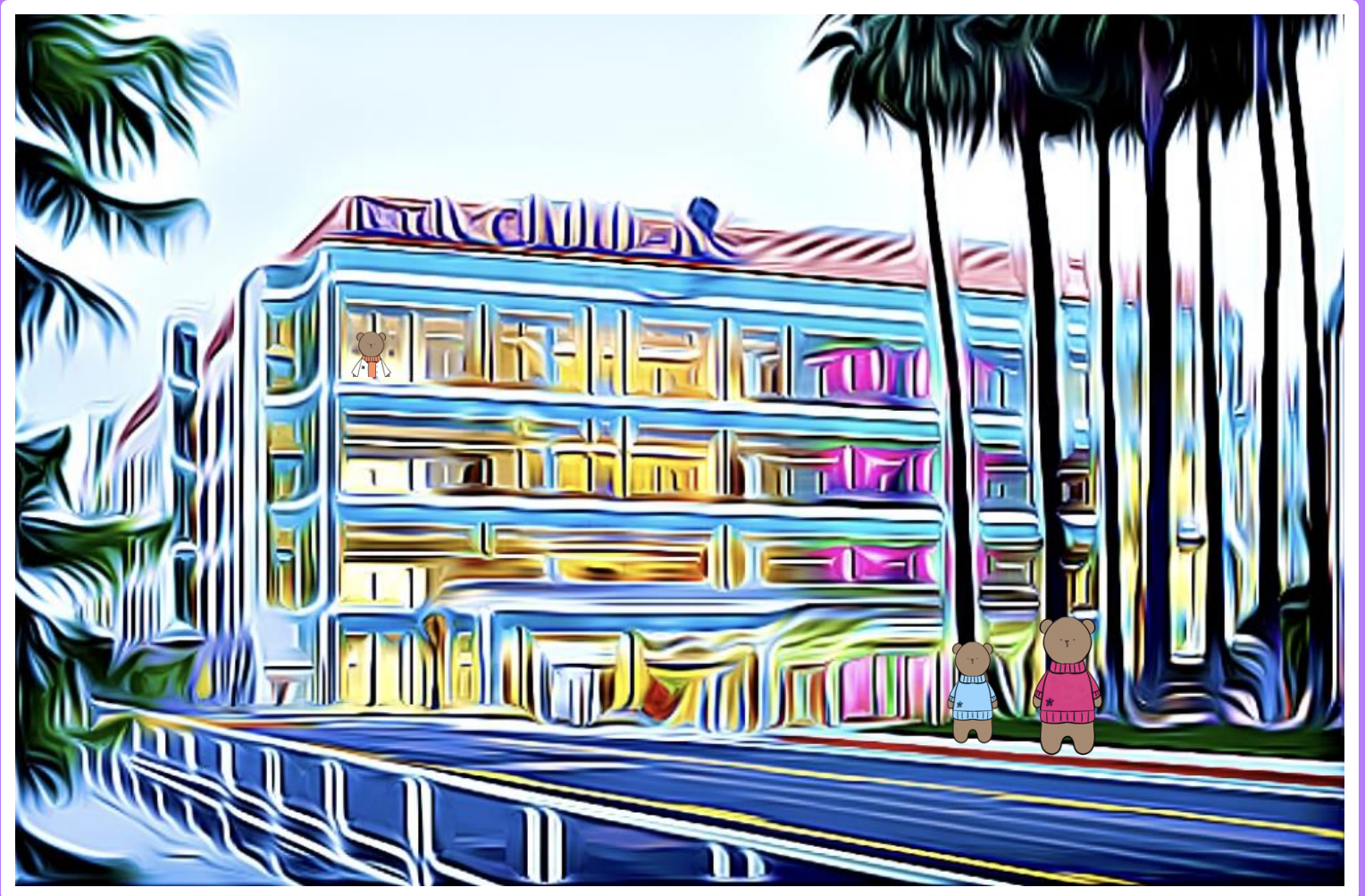


# Dravet Syndrome



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Dravet Syndrome  
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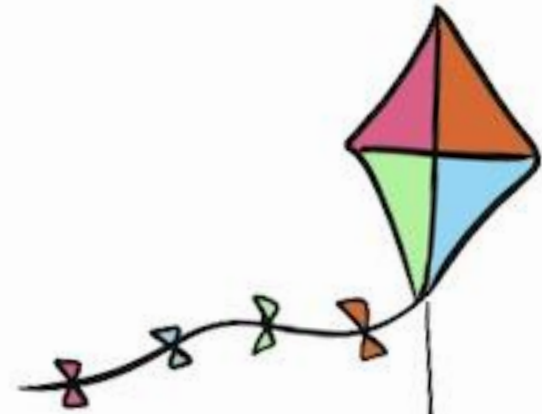


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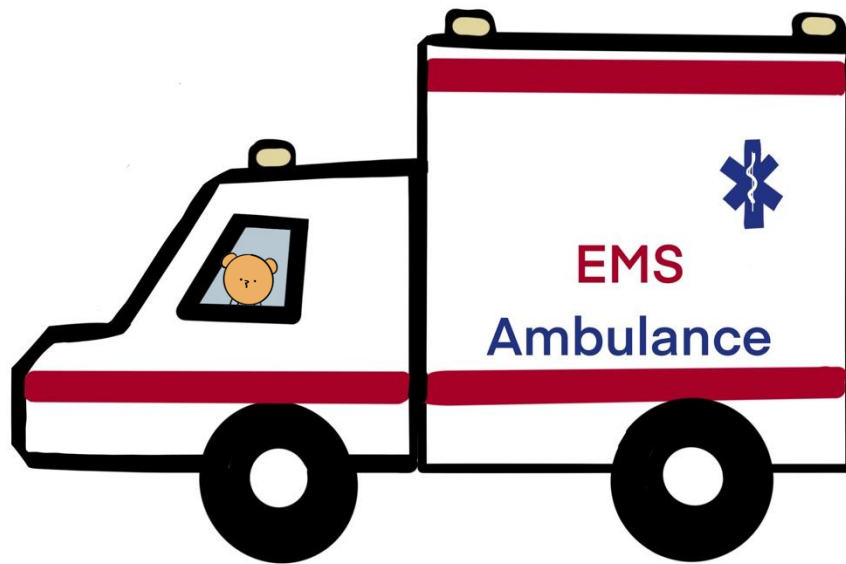
Hello, how are you?  
This is my little sister,  
we love to play  
together.



"Hello"



One day she was a little sick and had a fever. She did not want to play with me, and she suddenly started shaking. My mom called 911.



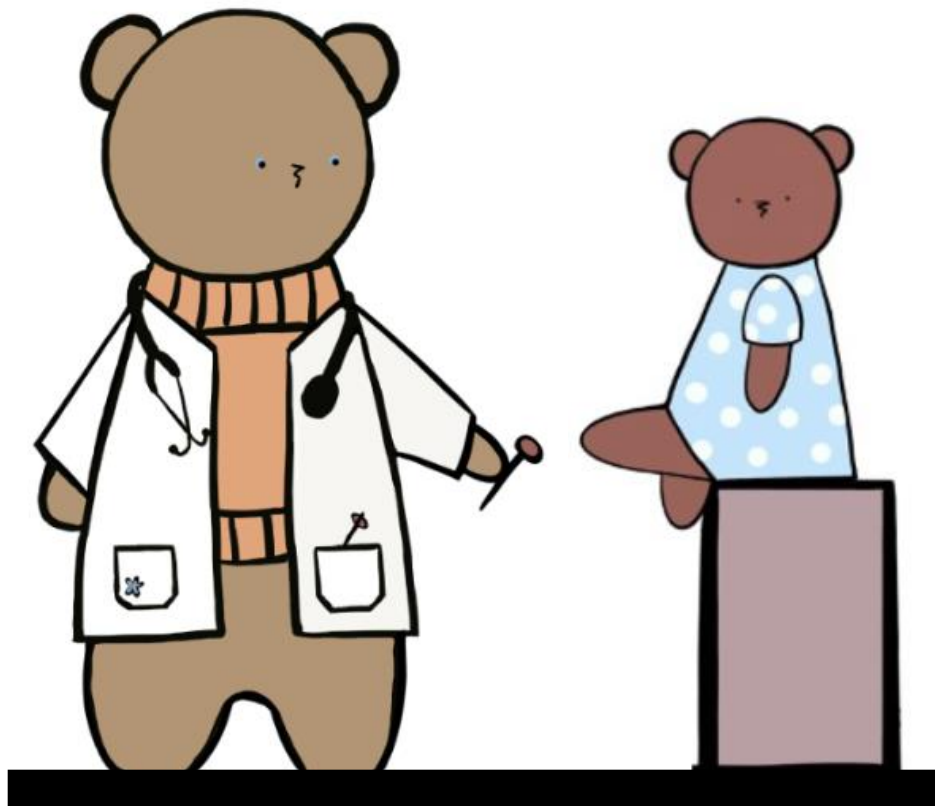
I could tell that my parents were really scared. I was really scared too!

When we got to the emergency room, she was much better, and we were told that we could go home after a few hours. Everything was fine until she got sick and had a fever again.

This time she was shaking for a very long time, and she needed to be admitted to the hospital.



At the hospital, a very nice doctor explained that the shaking episodes are called "seizures".

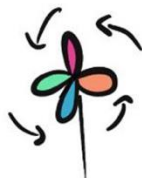


When she came back home I was a little sad because my sister was not as playful as before.



The doctor told us that she would order tests to monitor the seizures and find the best way to help my sister.

She got a test called electroencephalogram.  
The doctor told her that it would not hurt.

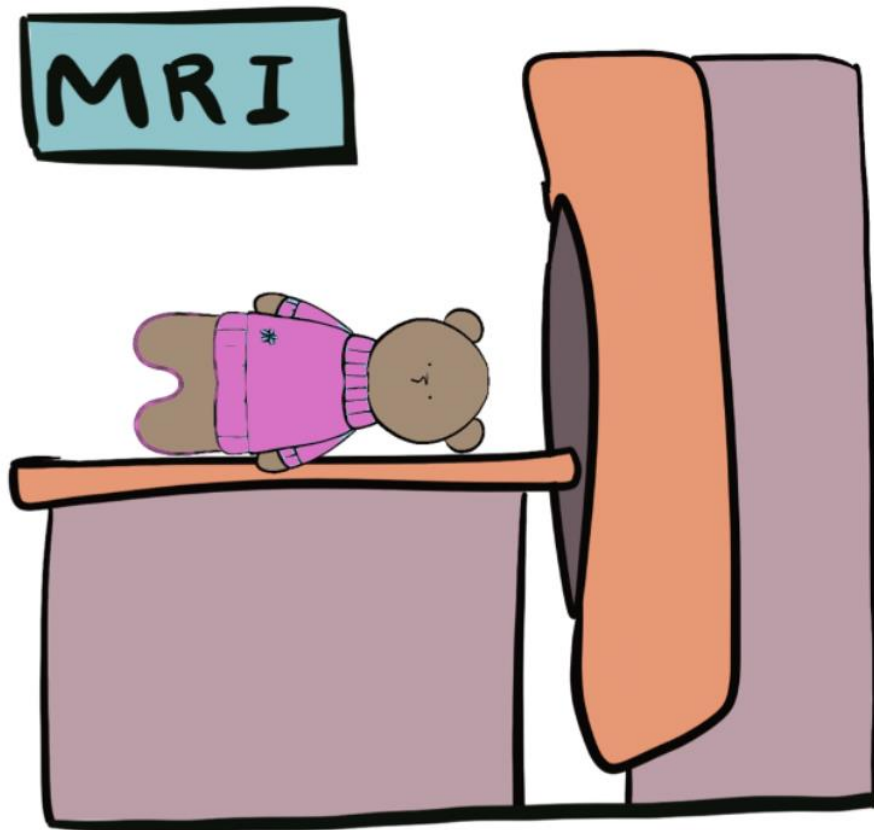


That was a little weird  
because they put  
several stickers with  
wires in her head, it  
looked like she was  
wearing a **BIG WHITE  
HAT.**

All she had to do was  
to rest quietly and  
blow on a pinwheel.



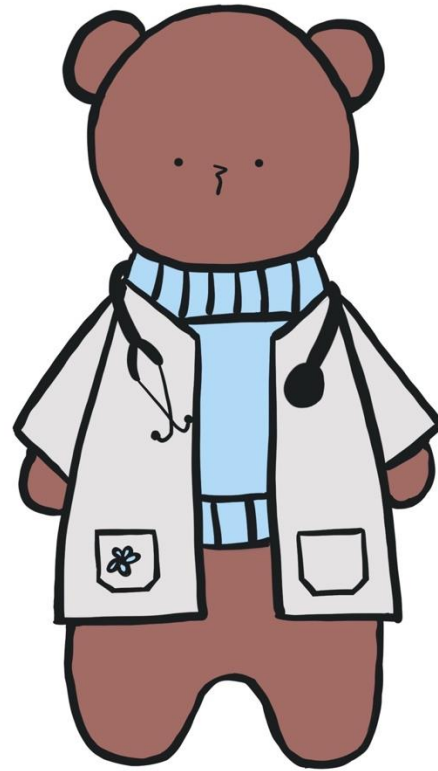
The other test was to take a picture of her brain called "Brain MRI". Again, she explained that it would not hurt.



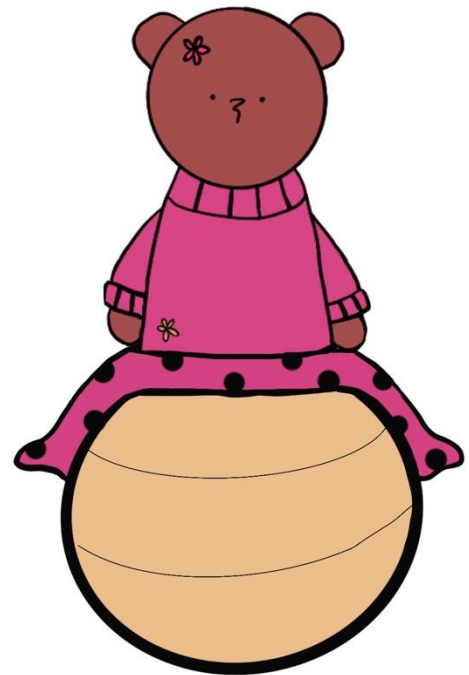
Later the doctor explained that the blood tests showed that she is having seizures because she has Dravet syndrome.

- We are born with Dravet syndrome, so you cannot "catch it."
- It is a genetic disease, a problem affecting in a gene called SCN1A.
- Seizures usually begin in early childhood.
- Most children with Dravet Syndrome are very sensitive to fever and seizures return when they are sick.
- They may also talk, walk, or learn at a slower pace, which is called developmental delay.

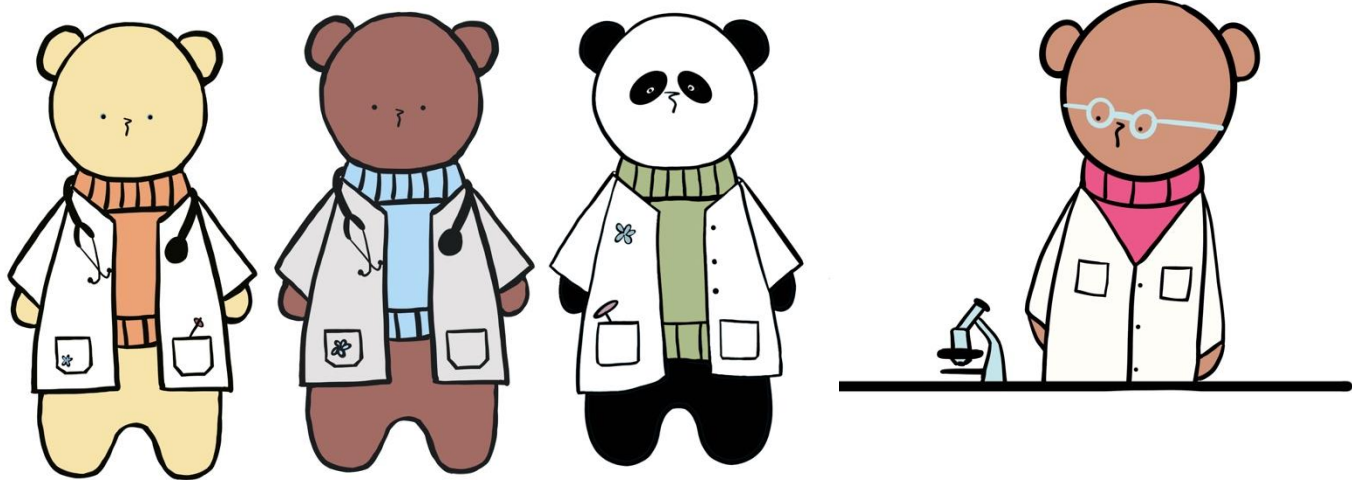
At first my parents were very scared, but they were happy to hear that doctors can help her get better.



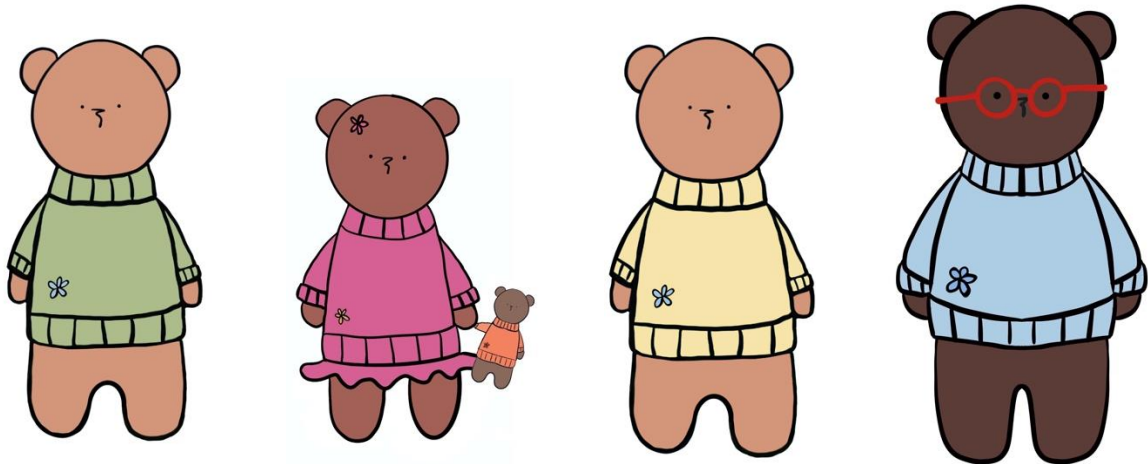
- She will need routine tests to help keep her healthy.
- There are several treatment options, and the most common one is medication to help control the seizures.
- Therapies are very important to help keep her skills and learn new ones.



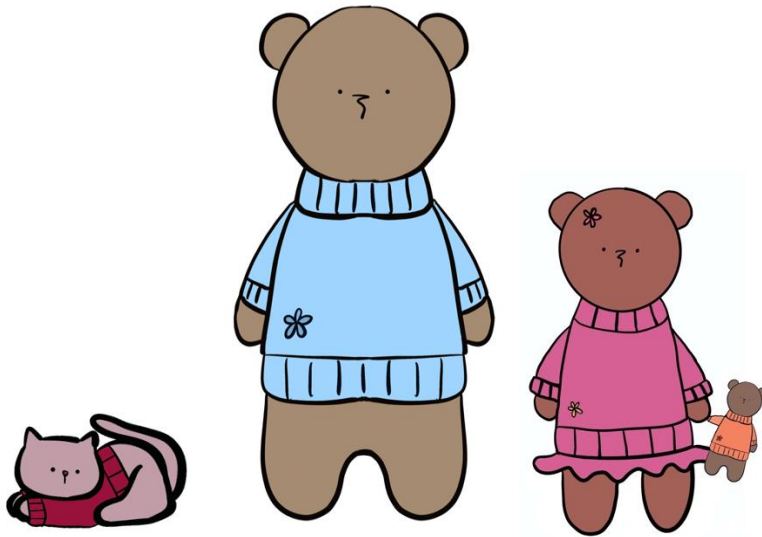
There is still so much to learn about Dravet syndrome and scientists are working hard to find out how to treat it even better.



In the beginning, I thought my sister was the only child with Dravet syndrome, but now I know that many children also have it.



Everyone is a little different.  
Although many children have Dravet  
syndrome; they are still regular kids just like  
you and me. We still play together, and she  
never leaves her favorite toy alone.



The End

