

Epilepsy with Myoclonic Atonic Seizures (EMAS)

Epilepsy with myoclonic-atic seizures (EMAS) was formerly known as myoclonic-astatic epilepsy (MAE) or Doose Syndrome. It is an uncommon childhood epilepsy that accounts for 1-2 out of 100 of all childhood-onset epilepsies. Genetics plays an important role in this condition, and in some cases a family history of seizures can be found. It generally affects more boys than girls. Usually the first seizure occurs between 7 months and 6 years, but most will occur between 2 and 4 years of age.

Children living with EMAS develop myoclonic and/or myoclonic-astatic (or drop) seizures, and may also have a combination of other generalised seizures (tonic-clonic, absence and non-convulsive status epilepticus and, rarely, tonic seizures). The ketogenic diet can sometimes prove an effective therapy for children with this syndrome.

For more information about EMAS (Doose Syndrome) visit the [Doose Syndrome Epilepsy Alliance](#)

For more information about EMAS visit the [Epilepsy New Zealand USA](#)



0800 37 45 37



national@epilepsy.org.nz



www.epilepsy.org.nz