

JOINT EVENT

4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on **Epilepsy & Treatment**  
&  
4<sup>th</sup> World Congress on **Parkinsons & Huntington Disease**  
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## Ramon Bautista

University of Florida Health Science Center, USA

### Epilepsy wellness: Beyond diagnosis, beyond therapy

Epilepsy is a common neurological condition that affects 1% of the population. Huge resources have been allotted to determining ways to improve diagnosis and treatment. Far fewer have been allocated to help epilepsy patients deal with their condition and maximize their participation in society. Seizures significantly affects the self-image of those afflicted, how they are regarded by their family and society at large. The self-management skills required to deal with the condition are considerable. Many individuals with epilepsy have accompanying cognitive and behavioral issues making it difficult for them to comply with treatment; and even if they do achieve reasonable seizure control, limits their participation in society. Epilepsy also impacts the life of loved-ones and caregivers, causing major upheavals in family life and dynamics. In many societies, families often face these crises alone, afraid of the stigma that their cultures impose on those with the condition. The resources and support needed by families to deal with their loved-ones condition are often non-existent. Much has occurred since Alfred Hauptmann's serendipitous discovery of phenobarbital as a seizure medication in 1912. The array of diagnostic and therapeutic options for epilepsy care can be mind-boggling. However epilepsy care circa-2018 can no longer be confined to best treatment practices and should focus on helping our patients maximize their human potential. The 1997 global campaign against epilepsy: Out of the shadows has done wonders to raise public awareness and acceptability of the condition. Our goal should now be to help our patients come into the light.

### Biography

Ramon Bautista is a Professor and Associate Chairman of Neurology at the University of Florida Health Sciences Center, Jacksonville where he is also Director of the Comprehensive Epilepsy Program. He is a graduate from the University of the Philippines and completed his Post graduate training in Washington University, St. Louis, Emory University, and Yale University. He has published extensively in peer reviewed journals and edited the book, "Epilepsy: A Century of Discovery". His research interests are in clinical epilepsy and neurophysiology with a focus on understanding and improving the psychosocial condition of individuals with epilepsy.

[ramon.bautista@jax.ufl.edu](mailto:ramon.bautista@jax.ufl.edu)

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