



November 4, 2018

#Paws4Purple: Important Canine Epilepsy Resources

By Dorothy Wills-Raftery

November is Epilepsy Awareness Month. According to the Epilepsy Foundation, *“Epilepsy is a condition of the brain causing seizures. A seizure is a disruption of the electrical communication between neurons.”* As with humans, **dogs can have seizures and also be diagnosed with epilepsy.**



If your dog has a [seizure](#), do you know what to do? First thing, after making sure the area is clear so your dog cannot get hurt while seizing, is to **call your vet**. Next, **become informed about seizures in dogs and Canine Epilepsy** so you can have an in-depth conversation with your vet about **anti-seizure medications, supplements, nutritional changes, possible triggers, items for an [Epi First Aid Kit](#)**, and **alternative treatments** for your dog.

Today, **there are some excellent resources available** to become better acquainted with Canine Epilepsy and seizures in dogs. [#Paws4Purple](#) is a **fairly new not-for-profit program partnership** between The [Anita Kaufmann Foundation](#)/Purple Day® Every Day global sponsor for [Purple Day](#)® and World Epilepsy Day™ and the [FiveSibes™ #LiveGibStrong K-9 Epilepsy Awareness & Educational Campaign](#). The partnership was **established on Purple Day**®, March 26, 2018, in an effort to **help educate and inform the public about dogs living with seizures,**

and to provide important reputable resources to help serve as a guide for those caring for a dog with Canine Epilepsy, while emphasizing FiveSibes #LiveGibStrong's motto that dogs can—and do—live happy lives with Canine Epilepsy.

Free #Paws4Purple Informational Materials

If you are with a veterinary office, ER clinic, rescue, grooming business, doggie day care, canine school, dog park, or work for a school district, police or fire department, or any other organization, municipality, or group that would like a **supply of #Paws4Purple flyers and/or bookmarks to hand out**, simply Email debra@akfus.org and put #Paws4Purple in the subject line and let the organization know where to send them. They are free of charge, but a **donation to The Anita Kaufmann Foundation is greatly appreciated**. Digital downloads are also available at: <http://purpledayeveryday.org/paws-4-purple/>

Additional Resources on Canine Epilepsy:

- FiveSibes #LiveGibStrong K-9 Epilepsy Library – <https://fivesibes.com/k-9-epilepsy-awareness.html>
- Blu's Tales Foundation on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/BlusTaleFoundation/>
- Canine Epilepsy Resources/Home of the Epil-K9 List – www.canine-epilepsy.com
- Canine Epilepsy Network – www.canine-epilepsy.net
- Dr. Karen Becker, Mercola Healthy Pets, What Causes Seizures in Pets Video – <https://youtu.be/ZVnaIujDzqE>
- EPIC Dog Tales: Heartfelt Stories About Amazing Dogs Living & Loving Life With Canine Epilepsy Book, written by Dorothy Wills-Raftery – www.arctichousepublishing.com
- FiveSibes™ “The Sibe Vibe” Purple Day® Show: The Important Link Between Zinc Deficiencies and Seizures – <http://dogworksradio.com/the-sibe-vibe-presents-margit-maxwell-2/>
- FiveSibes™ “The Sibe Vibe” Talking Canine Epilepsy with Dr. Arnold Rugg of Kingston Animal Hospital – <http://dogworksradio.com/the-sibe-vibe-presents-dr-arnold-rugg/>
- FiveSibes™ “The Sibe Vibe” Talking Seizures in Dogs with Dr. Karen R. Muñana of North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine – <http://dogworksradio.com/the-sibe-vibe-presents-dr-karen-munana/>
- FiveSibes™ Purple Day® for Canine Epilepsy Awareness Video – https://youtu.be/4_R_v99QnDY
- North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine Companion Animal Epilepsy – www.go.ncsu.edu/epilepsyresearch
- Olivia's Quick Sniff eBook Series on Canine Epilepsy - <https://knottytoysforgooddogs.blog/ebooks/>
- Royal Veterinary College University of London – www.rvc.ac.uk (type “epilepsy” in search box)
- The Epi Guardian Angels – www.canine-epilepsy-guardian-angels.com

- **The Wally Foundation-Canine Epilepsy on Facebook** (for possible financial assistance for medications) – <https://www.facebook.com/thewallyfoundation/>
 - **The American Kennel Club (AKC): Can CBD Oil Help Dogs With Epilepsy?** The AKC Health Foundation Investigates - <https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/health/cbd-oil-for-dog-seizures/>
 - **Toby's Foundation** – <http://www.tobysfoundation.org>
 - **Update on the AKC Health Foundation Epilepsy Initiative** - <https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/dog-breeding/update-akc-canine-health-foundation-epilepsy-initiative/>
 - **What's Wrong With Gibson? Learning About K-9 Epilepsy Book for Children** – www.ArcticHousePublishing.com
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Dorothy Wills-Raftery

Dorothy Wills-Raftery is an award-winning photojournalist and author of *EPIC Dog Tales: Heartfelt Stories About Amazing Dogs Living & Loving Life With Canine Epilepsy*; the FiveSibes™ Tales children's books: *What's Wrong With Gibson? Learning About K-9 Epilepsy* and *Getting Healthy With Harley: Learning About Health & Fitness*; and *Buddy, the Christmas Husky~Based On A True Holiday Miracle* books ([ArcticHouse Publishing](http://ArcticHousePublishing.com)), as well as the FiveSibes.com, an online encyclopedia for the Siberian Husky breed and Canine Epilepsy information, as well as her international award-winning [FiveSibes blog](http://FiveSibes.com), based on the lives of her five Siberian Huskies. Her work has also appeared in *American Pet Magazine*, *Ruff Drafts*, *The Sled Dogger*, and *Hudson Valley Paw Print Magazine*. Dorothy is the writer and host of "[The Sibe Vibe](http://TheSibeVibe.com)" [Dog Works Radio show](http://DogWorksRadio.com).

Dorothy is a 11-time Dog Writers of America Association "Excellence" nominee, winning the prestigious Maxwell Medallion in 2018, 2017 and 2016 for her writing, photography, and design. Her book *EPIC Dog Tales: Heartfelt Stories About Amazing Dogs Living & Loving Life With Canine Epilepsy* received the 2018 Independent Press Award for "Excellence" in the Reference Book category and 2017 NYC Big Book Award for "Excellence" in the Animal/Pet book category. She is the recipient of The Grey Muzzle Award by The Grey Muzzle Organization for "Excellence in writing/media of the plight of at-risk senior dogs" on her show "The Sibe Vibe" broadcasted on Dog Works Radio and iTunes. Dorothy was also named "Best Author" in 2015 & 2016 by *Hudson Valley Magazine* and all four books named "Best in Print" by *AmericanPet Magazine*, An official International Purple Day® for Epilepsy Ambassador since 2012 and a volunteer case manager for The Wally Foundation-Canine Epilepsy, Dorothy is the creator of the FiveSibes [#LiveGibStrong K-9 Epilepsy Awareness](https://www.instagram.com/livegibstrong) campaign and partnered with Purple Day® Every Day presented by The Anita Kaufmann Foundation for [#Paws4Purple Project](https://www.instagram.com/paws4purple), both inspired by her own epileptic Husky, Gibson. In addition to her Siberian Huskies, Dorothy shares her home with her husband, daughter, son-in-law, and grandson. You can follow Dorothy and her FiveSibes on Facebook at [FiveSibes: Siberian Husky K9 News & Reviews](https://www.facebook.com/FiveSibes), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/FiveSibesMom), and [Instagram\(@FiveSibesMom\)](https://www.instagram.com/FiveSibesMom).