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Dell Children's Pediatric epileptologist receives prestigious J. Kiffin Penry Award for Excellence



Dell Children's Medical Center
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[Dave Clarke, MD](#), Chief of the Comprehensive Pediatric Epilepsy Program at UT Health Austin Pediatric Neurosciences at Dell Children's, and a distinguished board-certified pediatric epileptologist, stands at the forefront of epilepsy care for children in Central Texas. His illustrious career, marked by a commitment to excellence, inclusivity, and cutting-edge research, landed him among an elite group of nationally recognized epileptologists.

Recently, Dr. Clarke was honored with the prestigious [J. Kiffin Penry Award for Excellence in Epilepsy Care by the American Epilepsy Society \(AES\)](#). This accolade, presented at the annual meeting in Orlando, Florida, underscores Dr. Clarke's outstanding contributions to the field. The J. Kiffin Penry Award, named



after the late Dr. Penry, recognizes individuals who share a commitment to improving epilepsy care, promoting research, and fostering educational activities and mentorship.

Dr. Clarke's expertise extends across epilepsy, sleep medicine, and child neurology. His research primarily focuses on the medical and surgical management of drug-resistant epilepsy. Recent projects undertaken by Dr. Clarke address deficits and disparities in epilepsy care, showcasing his dedication to making advancements in the field. Through his work, he advocates for inclusive and collaborative approaches to ensure the well-being of children with epilepsy.

Actively engaged in professional organizations, Dr. Clarke is a member of the North American Commission of the International League Against Epilepsy, the Epilepsy Leadership Council Steering Committee, the International Affairs Committee of the Child Neurology Society, and the American Epilepsy Society Advocacy Task Force. As the secretary-treasurer of the National Association of Epilepsy Centers Board, Dr. Clarke plays a crucial role in shaping the landscape of epilepsy care at a national level.

Dr. Clarke's commitment has made global impacts. He has championed efforts to reduce disparities in epilepsy care around the world, participating in outreach programs in Texas, Africa, and the Caribbean island countries. In 2021, his outstanding contributions were acknowledged when he received the Ambassador for Epilepsy Award presented by the International League Against Epilepsy and the International Bureau for Epilepsy.

Under Dr. Clarke's leadership, the Comprehensive Pediatric Epilepsy Center at UT Health Austin Pediatric Neurosciences at Dell Children's has become the **sole dedicated pediatric epilepsy center in Central Texas**. The center boasts an expert staff and advanced technology, providing up-to-date patient- and family-focused medical, dietary, and surgical epilepsy treatments. Under Dr. Clarke's leadership, the care team's goal is to ensure the best possible outcomes for children and adolescents living with epilepsy.

About Dell Children's Medical Center

[UT Health Austin Pediatric Neurosciences at Dell Children's](#), part of Ascension Seton and nationally ranked for its pediatric neurology and neurosurgery, serves families in Central Texas and its surrounding counties. In collaboration with [UT Health Austin](#), the pediatric neurosciences program offers pediatric neurology, pediatric neurosurgery, pediatric physical medicine and rehabilitation, pediatric neuro-ophthalmology, and pediatric neuropsychology care. Whether the patient has epilepsy, ongoing headache pain, hydrocephalus, or another neurology need, our specialists deliver advanced, compassionate, and personalized care to get to the root of the problem. Dell Children's offers the most advanced neurosciences program for children in Central Texas, and we house the only Level 4 pediatric epilepsy monitoring unit in the region. We also support research and provide training for medical students, as well as medical residents, in child and adult neurology, pediatrics, psychiatry, and other disciplines.

About our collaboration with UT Health Austin

[UT Health Austin](#) is the clinical practice of Dell Medical School at The University of Texas at Austin. The collaboration between UT Health Austin and [Dell Children's](#) brings together medical professionals, medical school learners, and researchers who are all part of the integrated mission of transforming health care delivery and redesigning the academic health environment to better serve society. This collaboration allows us to provide you with a team of highly specialized providers who are at the forefront of the latest research, diagnostic, and technological developments.
