

# 1940–1949



- 1940 The first corpus callosotomy for refractory epilepsy is reported by William P. van Wagenen and R. Yorke Herren
- 1941 Diamox introduced for the treatment of epilepsy
- 1942 ECT used in the treatment of epilepsy
- 1943 Cortical spreading depression discovered by Aristides Leão studying epilepsy in rabbits
- 1944 Denis Williams publishes paper on 'transient outbursts' in the EEG of epileptic patients



- 1945 ILAE branch meetings restart in Great Britain
- 1945 American Epilepsy League Inc. formed
- 1945 Grass Instrument Company formed to manufacture EEG machines
- 1946 ILAE branch meetings restart in the United States, and the ILAE holds first postwar business meeting with 45 scientific lectures given
- 1946 First use of trimethadione in epilepsy
- 1946 Holland and Argentina form branches of the ILAE again (making five branches with Scandinavia, Britain and the United States)
- 1947 Mephentyoin introduced into practice
- 1948 Around this time, the first temporal lobectomy with removal of the mesial structures is carried out – by either Arthur Morris in Georgetown or Wilder Penfield in Montreal
- 1949 ILAE quadrennial meeting in Paris – the 7<sup>th</sup> ILAE meeting
- 1949 France forms a branch of the ILAE
- 1949 First video and EEG monitoring introduced
- 1949 Paramethadione launched
- 1949 Establishment of the Conseil National de Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) by Fessard.

- 1940 Penicillin launched as an antibiotic by Howard Florey and Ernst Chain
- 1941 The term antibiotic coined by Selman Waksman
- 1942 WHO set up
- 1942 Curare used as a muscle relaxant during surgery
- 1943 The first renal dialysis machine announced by Willem Kolff
- 1944 Alfred Blalock operates successfully on a 'blue baby'

- 1945 First electron micrograph of a cell published
- 1946 First RCT – of streptomycin in TB by the UK Medical Research Council
- 1947 Chloramphenicol introduced
- 1947 RNA discovered in chromosomes by Alfred Ezra Mirsky
- 1948 Nurenburg code on human experimentation
- 1949 Cortisone discovered as a therapy of rheumatoid arthritis