

Mayo Clinic Medical Edge

Pacemaker for Epilepsy

1:00

Log

Audio

Intro with music	GIVING YOU THE EDGE ON HEALTHY LIVING, HERE'S MAYO CLINIC'S MEDICAL EDGE.
	MIKE MCKENNA IS BACK IN SCHOOL. AFTER YEARS OF WORKING AS A BUILDING CONTRACTOR, SEVERE EPILEPSY HAS HIM LEARNING NEW SKILLS AND LOOKING FOR A NEW JOB.
Mike McKenna has epilepsy	"IT CHANGED MY LIFE COMPLETELY. I HAVEN'T DRIVEN FOR ABOUT SEVEN YEARS NOW. "
	MEDICATIONS DON'T HELP HIS SEIZURES AND MIKE DOESN'T WANT SURGERY BECAUSE REMOVING THE AREA OF THE BRAIN WHERE HIS SEIZURES ORIGINATE WOULD BE RISKY. SO MIKE ENROLLED IN A STUDY AT

	<p>MAYO CLINIC WHERE DOCTORS IMPLANTED AN ELECTRICAL STIMULATION DEVICE INTO HIS BRAIN. DR. JOSEPH SIRVEN SAYS THE DEVICE IS LIKE A PACEMAKER FOR YOUR BRAIN. THE DEVICE MONITORS BRAIN WAVES AND WHEN IT SENSES ABNORMAL ELECTRICAL ACTIVITY IT FIRES ELECTRICAL STIMULATION AND STOPS THE SEIZURE.</p>
<p>Joseph Sirven, M.D. Mayo Clinic</p>	<p>“IT’S ALMOST LIKE SHOCKING THE SEIZURE AWAY.”</p>
<p>Mike</p>	<p>“I HOPE THAT I CAN HAVE THIS THING CONTROL MY SEIZURES EVEN JUST A LITTLE BIT.”</p>
	<p>SO HE CAN REGAIN CONTROL OF HIS LIFE.</p>
	<p>FOR MORE INFORMATION, TALK WITH YOUR DOCTOR, OR VISIT MAYOCLINIC.ORG. I’M VIVIEN WILLIAMS.</p>