

Raising epilepsy awareness

I refer to the article ("Let's paint the town purple for epilepsy", March 12).

We appreciate the opportunity to talk about our new campaign aimed at building epilepsy awareness in Hong Kong. However, the report requires clarification.

Epilepsy can occur in any person at any age and is not limited to ages five to 20.

Epilepsy is not caused when the brain releases excessive electrical signals disturbing normal brain activity. Seizures are caused when the brain releases excessive electrical signals disturbing normal brain activity and the tendency to have recurrent seizures is epilepsy. Basically, epilepsy is the condition.

The new name for epilepsy in Chinese is *no gan tsing* and not *mo gan tsing*.

As it is, there are too many myths and misconceptions that surround epilepsy, leading to the stigma and prejudice towards people affected by epilepsy.

Our new campaign, Paint the Town Purple, is an earnest effort to erase the many misconceptions and raise epilepsy awareness.

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