



## Speaking from Experience *Epilepsy Surgery*

### Transcript for chapter 7 of 12: Reactions

**Louise, 9 months after surgery:** Well, I talked about it through my family because I've always made them a part of my epilepsy, because having two older brothers, they had to also deal with it right from when I was young. So, they've always been a part of it.

**Maree, 11 months after grid monitoring and surgery, and husband Rob:** Varying reactions to family and friends. Some were really supportive and some said don't do it. No matter what you do, don't do it. Because they were just total lack of any knowledge of what was going to happen.

**Mark, 7 years after surgery:** I know my wife was quite nervous about how things would work out. But she was very supportive during that time where I guess I was kind of trusting a lot of people to do the best they could.

**Maree and Rob:** Especially with family, it didn't sit so well with them in the beginning. I mean fears of the unknown, I guess.

**Sarah, 3 months after surgery, and mother Frances:** The reaction from family and friends was very supportive. They were just extremely supportive and they said, "Go for it."

**Denise and Frank's son, Luc, had surgery 1 year ago:** Quite a few of them tried to put us off and were very negative about the whole thing. It was really awful.

**Mark:** My friends were, I guess, a bit astounded that I was going to have part of my brain removed. In fact even the doctor at work was very kind of amazed that I would go through a procedure where they would remove part of my brain. So even through the general practice, they didn't know a lot about the procedure.

**Louise:** My friends, they were a bit shocked. They said, "Well, from what we've seen, it's going to be a good thing".

**Sarah and Frances:** My class all made cards and all put in money and bought me a present.

**Maree and Rob:** I got support from a whole range of areas. From the neurologist, from the epilepsy foundation, even from the internet. Maree had done quite a bit of research.

**Barry, 2 years after surgery:** My family, friends, sporting mates, hospital committee members, general public when they knew what I was doing, they wished me every ounce of good luck.

**Maree and Rob:** I was able to speak to a lady in Australia through the epilepsy foundation who had surgery. And importantly for me, I was able to speak to her husband to see what he'd gone through in that whole procedure, because that was what I was going through.