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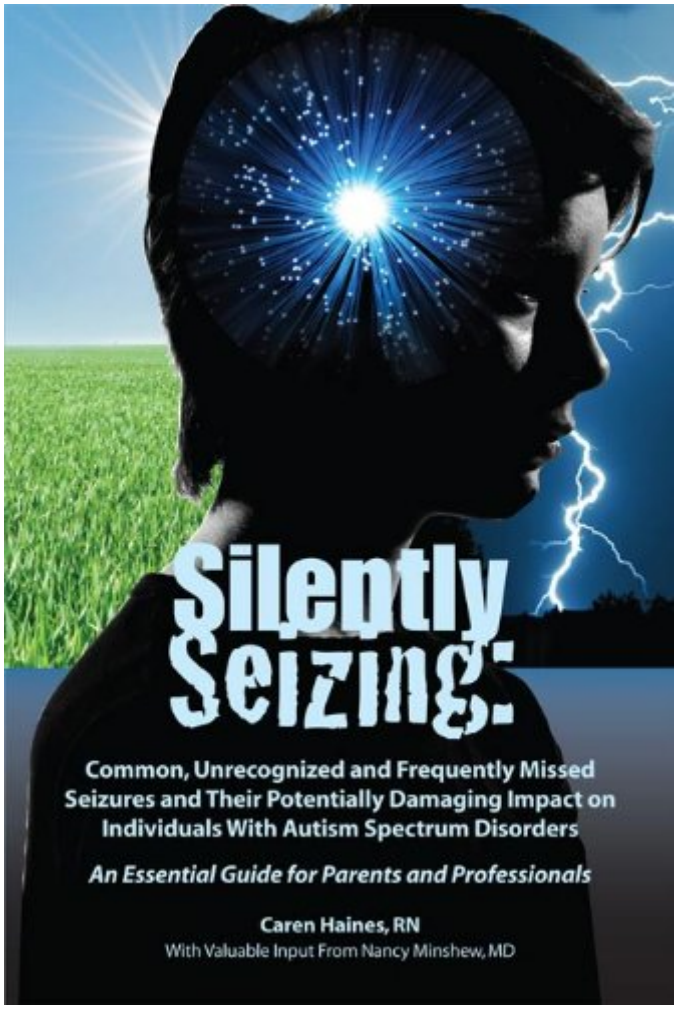
# Silently Seizing: Common, Unrecognized And Frequently Missed Seizures And Their Potentially Damaging Impact On Individuals With Autism Spectrum Disorders; ... Guide For Parents And Professionals



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## Synopsis

Up to 50% of all children have undiagnosed seizure disorders, to a great extent because they are difficult to diagnose and due to a lack of awareness and understanding. Caren Haines, with renowned behavioral child neurologist Nancy Minshew, MD, is determined to change that. At age two, author Caren Haines' son was diagnosed with autism. By the time he was 12, his diagnosis didn't account for his uncontrollable aggression, the acrid smells that lingered in his mind and the odd voices that screamed at him from inside his head. By the time he was 18, his out-of-control behavior mirrored a mood disorder with psychotic features. Silently Seizing begins with a close-up look at this family's journey and examines a disorder that cannot always be identified in a clinical setting. Intersecting at two medical sub-specialties, neurology and psychiatry, the child who has autism and partial seizures is at a serious disadvantage. By inadvertently allowing children's brains to "silently seize," we are robbing children of their ability to function normally. When treated early with anti-seizure medications, many children show amazing gains in expressive language and comprehension. Many begin to speak and learn as many troubling behaviors begin to disappear. Even more important, many children lose their diagnosis of autism. Backed by up-to-the-minute research, this must-read book includes sections on what autism is, the seizure-autism connection, tips for diagnosing and treating seizures, as well as how to better understand children's behavior.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

When I saw the title of this book, Silently Seizing, by Caren Haines releasing, I thought I must get a copy of this book. As an intructional aide who has worked with students ranging from age 3 through 22 with severe challenges, I am extremely interested in this mysterious challenge of the silent seizures. Until I started this job 13 years ago, I was unaware of any seizures other than the typical seizures associated with people with epilepsy. This book includes those seizures in order to differentiate them from the less noticable and less diagnosed "silent" seizures.From beginning to end, I was memsmorized by the amazing data, description and personal accounts shared to help the reader better understand these hard-to-discern seizures that can lead to major physical and behavioral challenges that are often attributed to other causes. This misdiagnosis can be a major disservice to the individual experiencing these seizures and, in turn, contribute to major challenges for those family members and classmates impacted by these individual's behaviors.I found it amazing how much the medical community relies solely on the EEG to determine if an individual experiences any seizures when, in fact, many seizures are not typically seen on the EEG while testing.

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