



Speaking from Experience *Epilepsy Surgery*

Transcript for chapter 12 of 12: Closing thoughts

Maree, 11 months after grid monitoring and surgery, and husband Rob: I think it's really important to talk to someone who's been there already. Because you're not hearing it just from a professional, but you're hearing it from someone who's actually experienced it. I just found that to be a great help to me, because there's an understanding there that a professional couldn't actually have. I just really, that was a great help to me.

Denise and Frank's son, Luc, had surgery 1 year ago: If your neurologist is confident and the neurosurgeon is confident that it's an option and that there's a good chance of success, I'd definitely go for it. I would not even hesitate because they know what they are talking about and if they're confident then it could give you such an enormous chance, really. A chance for your child.

Mark, 7 years after surgery: I think people considering surgery now, if they can sort of go into it reasonably confident that they can be guided by the medical professionals about the success of the surgery, because they have much more knowledge about how the surgery works. The diagnostic tools are much better than when I had it done. So at least they can be guided much more about the medical side. But I think you have to realise that when you go through brain surgery, there are some down sides. But they're not going to be ongoing; you've got to get through it. You've unfortunately got to weather the storm before it's sunny again.

Sarah, 3 months after surgery, and mother Frances: Do all the tests and really consider it, because it's just amazing.

Louise, 9 months after surgery: It'll make some of a difference, so why not give it a try.

Denise and Frank: You can actually see a future there for you child, where before it was just too horrible to want to think about too much. But now it's like the sky is the limit, really. Not even the neurologist can tell us what his future's going to be. It's possible that he may catch up. It's possible that he may end up being like a completely normal child. We just don't know. But he's just learning and growing and developing really well now.