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KAI MILLER: My name's Kai Miller. I recently joined the team here at Mayo as a pediatric epilepsy surgeon. I guess what I'd like referring physicians to know is that my goal in doing the surgery is to provide the least invasive surgery that will be efficacious and to be able to educate the patients and their families about the relative likelihood of seizure freedom and seizure reduction, depending upon the surgical decision that's made.

I think for anybody referring a patient here to know that I want them to remain part of the process. This is their patient that they've been taking care of for a long time. And this patient will remain their patient. We're here to provide a full range of options that aren't available everywhere surgically and diagnostically, and I feel very privileged to be at Mayo Clinic, where all of these techniques can be offered.

From an imaging perspective, 7T clinical fMRI, which exists here at Mayo, lets us identify focal cortical dysplasias more easily. It lets us define structures that we might not be able to see at lower resolution to help us get a definitive diagnosis. The other thing is that if a patient comes here and they're not the best surgical candidate, I wouldn't feel comfortable recommending something that I wouldn't recommend for myself or my own family. I feel like the line needs to be what would you do if it were your own personal case?

And I know that as a neurologist who's developed a long-term relationship with the patient, you have a very clear apprehension about them going to another center and having a potentially invasive surgery. And I would want referring physicians to know that my desire is to be as minimally invasive as possible so that we treat the epilepsy while preserving function.