

# Seizure

## **History**

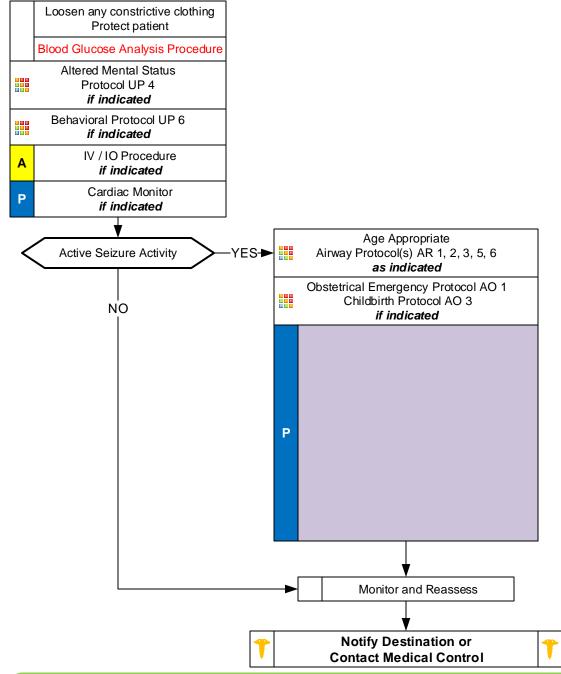
- Reported / witnessed seizure activity
- Previous seizure history
- Medical alert tag information
- Seizure medications
- History of trauma
- History of diabetes
- History of pregnancy
- Time of seizure onset
- Document number of seizures
- Alcohol use, abuse or abrupt cessation
- Fever

#### Signs and Symptoms

- Decreased mental status
- Sleepiness
- Incontinence
- Observed seizure activity
- Evidence of trauma
- Unconscious

#### **Differential**

- CNS (Head) trauma
- Tumor
- · Metabolic, Hepatic, or Renal failure
- Hypoxia
- Electrolyte abnormality (Na, Ca, Mg)
- Drugs, Medications, Non-compliance
- Infection / Fever
- Alcohol withdrawal
- Eclampsia
- Stroke
- Hyperthermia
- Hypoglycemia





# Seizure

### Pearls

- Recommended Exam: Mental Status, HEENT, Heart, Lungs, Extremities, Neuro
- Items in Red Text are key performance measures used to evaluate protocol compliance and care
- Adult:

Midazolam 5 – 10 mg IM is effective in termination of seizures. Do not delay IM administration with difficult IV or IO access. IM Preferred over IO.

Pediatrics:

Midazolam 0.2 mg/kg (Maximum 10 mg) IM is effective in termination of seizures. Do not delay IM administration with difficult IV or IO access. IM Preferred over IO.

- **Status epilepticus** is defined as two or more successive seizures without a period of consciousness or recovery. This is a true emergency requiring rapid airway control, treatment, and transport.
- Grand mal seizures (generalized) are associated with loss of consciousness, incontinence, and tongue trauma.
- **Focal seizures** affect only a part of the body and are not usually associated with a loss of consciousness, but can propagate to generalized seizures with loss of consciousness.
- Be prepared for airway problems and continued seizures.
- Assess possibility of occult trauma and substance abuse.
- In an infant, a seizure may be the only evidence of a closed head injury.
- Be prepared to assist ventilations especially if diazepam or midazolam is used.
- For any seizure in a pregnant patient, follow the OB Emergencies Protocol.
- Diazepam (Valium) is not effective when administered IM. Give IV or Rectally.
- Midazolam is well absorbed when administered IM.