

alterations in consciousness, and postictal state (e.g., behavior after the seizure), are noted and recorded (Box 27-8). The nurse should describe only what is observed rather than trying to label a seizure type. Note the duration of the seizure.

## **Box 27-8**

### **General Observations**

#### **The Child During a Seizure**

#### **Observations During Seizure**

##### **Describe**

Order of events (before, during, and after)

Duration of seizure

- Tonic-clonic: From first signs of event until jerking stops
- Absence: From loss of consciousness until consciousness is regained
- Complex partial: From first sign of unresponsiveness, motor activity, and automatisms until there are signs of responsiveness to environment

##### **Onset**

Time of onset

Significant precipitating events: Missed medication dosage, illness, stress, sleep deprivation, menses

##### **Behavior**