

## ONSET OF SEIZURE

Primary nurse will remain with the patient until seizure ceases.  
Secondary nurse will call MD for seizure management orders.

1. Gently turn the patient into the recovery position.
2. Cushion the patient's head and remove any dangerous objects in the surroundings. If patient is on the bed, use pillows or seizure pads to protect patient from side rails.
3. Do **NOT** hold the patient down and do **NOT** put anything in their mouth. Loosen clothing, if appropriate.
4. Ensure airway patency; check level of consciousness and vital signs. Provide oxygen if necessary.
5. Talk calmly with the patient until they recover.

### SEIZURE LASTS FOR LESS THAN 5 MINUTES

Continue to "Post-seizure management & monitoring plan" below.

### SEIZURE LASTS MORE THAN 5 MINUTES

1. If seizure lasts more than 5 minutes, initiate the protocol interventions (initial dose of lorazepam or midazolam SC or IV, dose and frequency as per physician orders).
2. If seizure activity continues, call MD for management orders AND administer next intervention (repeat dose of lorazepam or midazolam IV or SC as per physician orders).
3. If seizure activity persists, call MD before initiating phenytoin therapy (unless patient is already receiving phenytoin).

## POST-SEIZURE MANAGEMENT & MONITORING PLAN

1. Once the seizure ceases, stay with the patient until they are fully awake and familiar with the surroundings.
2. As they regain consciousness, reorient and reassure them by explaining what happened and answer any questions they might have. Most people will be sleepy or confused after a seizure.
3. Place the patient in a comfortable position and check the patient for any injuries/pain.

Assess vital signs, sedation, cognition, GCS and pain:  
Q30min x 1 hour  
Q1hour x 2 hours  
Q4hours x 24 hours  
Q shift (if no further seizures)

Blood work: CBC, electrolytes, calcium, magnesium, urea, creatinine, liver function, blood glucose, serum toxicology.  
Pre-phenytoin level collected prior to 5<sup>th</sup> maintenance dose.

Document seizure episode in "Seizure Management Care Plan" form.