

SEIZURES

SIGNS & SYMPTOMS:

1. Skin: febrile and flushed, or normal
2. Incontinence
3. Tonic phase - body stiffening
4. Clonic phase - body jerking
5. Drowsiness, confusion, or unconsciousness
6. Abnormal behavior
7. Apnea and cyanosis

OBTAIN HISTORY OF:

1. Epilepsy or previous seizures
2. CVA, tumor, or HTN
3. Diabetes
4. Substance abuse
5. Recent trauma or illness (esp. fever, infection)
6. PMH/Meds (esp. anticonvulsants)/allergies
7. Pre-eclampsia

PRECAUTIONS:

1. Do not attempt to place anything into the airway of a seizing patient.
2. Be prepared to assist ventilations in (and possibly intubate) any patient who receives midazolam.
3. Seizures may be cardiac-related.

BASIC LIFE SUPPORT CARE:

1. If actively seizing, do not restrain the patient. Protect from harm.
2. Assess and support ABCs. Consider nasal airway.
3. Place in recovery position if no evidence of trauma.
4. Administer oxygen.
5. Assess blood sugar. If BS is < 80 follow hypoglycemia guideline.
6. Consider ALS response
7. EMT with IV training - establish an IV TKO in any patient with a first time seizure (except children), recurrent or status seizures, or seizures associated with overdose, hypoglycemia, or trauma.
8. Initiate cardiac monitoring.
9. Obtain body temperature if patient appears febrile. Attempt to cool, but do not allow to shiver.

ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT CARE: In addition to above and as appropriate:

1. For actively seizing adult patients, give Versed 1 mg/min to a total of 0.1 mg/kg or seizure cessation. Versed is supplied 5mg in 1 ml. For IV/IO administration, add 4 ml to obtain a 5mg/5ml solution. Administer over 2-5 minutes.
2. If IV cannot be established, administer 0.1 mg/kg midazolam IM. IM administration can use the 5mg/1ml concentration (Maximum of 3 ml volume for IM injections).
3. Further orders must come from medical control.

PEDIATRIC CONSIDERATIONS:

1. Midazolam may be given on standing order to children in status seizures. Administer one IV/IO dose midazolam 1 mg/min to a total of 0.1 mg/kg or seizure cessation over 2-5 minutes. If IV or IO cannot be established, administer midazolam IM 0.2 mg/kg IM. Do not use Broselow Tape for dose calculation of versed. Versed dose listed is for induction only.
2. Orders for all other indications in children must come from Medical Control Physician.
3. Pediatric febrile seizures should be transported by ambulance.

SPECIAL NOTES:

1. Patients not transported following a seizure must be given the written Non-Transportation Information sheets on Seizures.