

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY

- 1 Seizures observed for supported persons with known epilepsy or diagnosed seizure disorders will be recorded. Community Support Specialists will observe for seizure-type disorder for other supported persons as clinically indicated. Other persons involved in personal care will be made aware of persons with seizure disorders and provided necessary information and instructions.
- 2 Activities
 - 2.1 Normal life activities will be encouraged.
 - 2.2 Moderate exercise will be encouraged, but strenuous exercise will be discouraged.
 - 2.3 Supported persons with seizure disorders will be encouraged to attend typical activities such as: movies, dances, travel and other social activities of interest.
 - 2.4 Supported persons with seizure disorders will be encouraged to refrain from alcoholic beverages and recreational drugs.
- 3 Management of Convulsions
 - 3.1 Position the person on side - lying position.
 - 3.2 Loosen clothing around neck.
 - 3.3 Provide safest possible conditions in the area surrounding the person.
 - 3.4 Initiate first aid treatment if the person injures him/herself.
 - 3.5 Allow the person to rest following seizure in side-lying position to allow for drainage of secretions.
 - 3.6 Notify the person's attending physician of number and frequency of seizures at each scheduled examination unless there is an unusual seizure occurrence, in which case the physician should be notified immediately.
- 4 Persons on Medication
 - 4.1 Dispense medication as ordered.
 - 4.2 Explain the importance of taking the medication to the person.

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- 4.3 Report results to the person's attending physician during regular office visits.
- 5 Observation of persons and Indications of Seizure Activity:
 - 5.1 Drowsiness, rash, nausea, vomiting.
 - 5.2 Momentary loss of consciousness, lasting 10 to 90 seconds (i.e. fixed gaze, blank facial expression, rapid blinking of eyelids, and/or momentary loss of muscle tone, jerking of arms, staggering gate, drooping of head, urinary incontinence).
 - 5.3 Be alert for safe conditions around the persons when seizure occurs.
 - 5.4 Injuries - provide first aid or report to RN Consultant or physician for administration of first aid as indicated.
 - 5.5 Allow the person to rest following seizure.
 - 5.6 Emotional or behavioral problems (e.g. disorientation, hallucinations, incoherent speech, irritability, etc.), which may mask the convulsive disorder.
 - 5.7 Excessive exercise and over tiredness.
 - 5.8 Unusual behavior patterns which may trigger seizure.
- 6 Seizure Training
 - 6.1 Encourage the personal awareness of seizure disorder and emphasize importance of others' awareness of condition.
 - 6.2 Explain need for medication and importance of cooperation with medication control.
 - 6.3 Promote awareness of the person's need for rest and encourage client the person to refrain from alcoholic beverages and strenuous exercise.

POLICY DATE: January, 1997
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