Ensure Safety for Self and Others

Signs and Symptoms

Any or all of the following:

- Altered awareness.
- Spasm and rigid muscles.
- Collapse.
- Jerking movements of head, arms, and legs.
- Shallow or intermittent breathing.
- Lips or complexion may change colour.
- Change in or loss of consciousness.
- Noisy breathing, dribbling.
- Faeces or urinary incontinence.

*Febrile convulsions in young children are usually associated with a rapid rise in temperature.

Seizure Management

Consult the person's Medical Management Plan as soon as possible if they have one.

Step 1

TIME THE SEIZURE

 Record the duration of the seizure.

PROVIDING SAFETY

- Remove unsafe objects.
- Protect the head.

REMAIN CALM

- Reassure the person.
- Tell them where they are and that they are safe.

Step 2

MAINTAIN THE AIRWAY

 Roll the person on their side when jerking stops or immediately if food, vomit, or fluid enters their mouth.

DO NOT

- Restrain or move the person unless they are in danger.
- Place anything in their mouth.

Step 3

MAINTAIN PRIVACY & DIGNITY

STAY WITH THEM

 Stay until the seizure naturally ends and they fully recover.

REASSURE

 Reassure them as they will be dazed, confused, or drowsy.

Consult the Australian Resuscitation Council guidelines, local epilepsy organisations, or visit https://www.epilepsy.org.au

Dial Triple Zero (000) for an Ambulance

Call 000 if the seizure:

- Lasts more than 5 minutes.
- Is quickly followed by a second seizure.
- Occurs in water.

Call 000 if the casualty:

- Is unresponsive for more than 5 minutes after the seizure.
- Goes blue in the face.
- Is pregnant or is injured

Call 000 if you:

- Think it is their first ever seizure
- Are concerned about their condition
- Are uncomfortable treating them