

EPILEPTIC SEIZURE

Managing epileptic seizures

Signs & symptoms

Patient may:

- suddenly cry out
- fall to the ground
- have a congested and blue face and neck
- have jerky, spasmodic and muscular movements
- froth at the mouth
- bite the tongue
- lose control of bladder and bowels

Management

1. During the seizure

- DO NOT try to restrain the person
- DO NOT put anything in their mouth
- DO NOT move the person unless in danger
- protect the person from injury

2. After the seizure

- follow DRSABCD — check the person's breathing and response
- place the person in the recovery position (on their side) as soon as jerking stops, or immediately if they have vomited or have food or fluid in their mouth
- manage any injuries resulting from the seizure
- DO NOT disturb if the person falls asleep, but do continue to check their breathing and response.

3. Call triple zero (000) for an ambulance if:

- the seizure continues for more than 5 minutes
- another seizure quickly follows
- the person has been injured
- the person has a history of diabetes.

In an emergency, call triple zero (000) for an ambulance

For more information on St John first aid training and kits, visit www.stjohn.org.au or freecall 1300 360 455