

# Protocol M-5

**SECTION: M-5**

**PROTOCOL TITLE: Adult Seizure Activity**

**REVISED January 11, 2010**

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**BLS SPECIFIC CARE: See adult General Medical Care Protocol M-1**

- Administer oxygen (high flow if neurological deficits or altered mental status)
- Place the patient in recovery position, and prevent accidental harm.
- Anticipate brief combativeness or agitation in post ictal phase.
- Screen for probable causes.
- If first time (or undiagnosed/unevaluated) seizure, *perform Cincinnati stroke scale* assessment as feasible.
- Ensure safe environment for patient
- If patient is female, determine if she is pregnant or has recently delivered.

**ILS SPECIFIC CARE: See adult General Medical Care Protocol M-1**

**ALS SPECIFIC CARE: See adult General Medical Care Protocol M-1**

*Anticonvulsant Therapies*

- Diazepam (Valium):
  - IV/IO: 2-10 mg, every 5-10 minutes PRN
  - PR/IM: 5-10 mg, every 5-10 minutes PRN
  - Max of 20 mg
- Midazolam (Versed):
  - IV: 0.5-2.5 mg, repeat PRN to a max of 5 mg
  - IN (intranasal) 5mg (2.5 mg each nare) to maximum total dose 5 mg
  - IM/IN: 5 mg (If no vascular access)
- Dextrose IV/IO: (If hypoglycemia present)
  - 12.5-25 g administered slowly through the distal port of a free flowing IV line
- Glucagon IM: (If hypoglycemia present and unable to obtain IV access)
  - 1 U (mg)

**ADULT SEIZURE ACTIVITY**

### PHYSICIAN PEARLS:

If the maximum dose of a benzodiazepine is reached without seizure control, call medical control to switch to a different benzodiazepine.

IM Versed is absorbed quicker than IM Valium. Consider using Versed when there is no vascular access.

Complete a detailed neurological assessment as patient condition allows.

### Modified Cincinnati Stroke Assessment Findings

#### Assessment Facial Droop

#### Normal

- Both sides of face move equally
- Grimace and grin are equal

#### Abnormal

- One side of face does not move with grin or grimace
- Droop noted to forehead, corner of eyes, or corner of mouth

#### Arm Drift

#### Normal

- (With Patient's eyes closed) Both arms are kept equal and extended

#### Abnormal

- (With patient's eyes closed) One arm drifts compared to the other

#### Speech

#### Normal

- Patient uses correct words with no slurring
- Patient says "You can't teach an old dog new tricks"

#### Abnormal:

- Slurred or inappropriate words
- Repetitive Words
- Acute inability to speak