

INITIAL ASSESSMENT:

Objectives:

1. Maintain adequate airway, breathing, and circulation (ABC's)
2. Terminate seizure and prevent recurrence
3. Manage refractory (recurrent seizures)
4. Diagnose and initiate therapy for life threatening causes of seizures

TYPICAL 'PROLONGED GENERALIZED SEIZURE' GUIDELINE

A. ASSESS AIRWAY, BREATHING AND CIRCULATION (ABC'S) AND CHECK FOR RESPONSIVENESS (first 1-5mins)

1. Position child on their side to prevent aspiration
2. Consider putting airway or spatula to prevent tongue bite

B. TERMINATE SEIZURES AND PREVENT RECURRENCE

1. Rectal Diazepam (1ST LINE)- 0.5mg/kg (put iv diazepam in 2cc syringe, apply KY gel, then insert rectally)

If seizure recurs, repeat same dose rectally once after 5mins

If seizure persists, then
next

2. Phenobarb - 20mg/kg (loading dose) – (2ND LINE)

Repeat with 5-10mg/kg dose, if seizure recurs

Continue with maintenance of 5mg/kg if seizure aborts

If seizure persists, then
next

3. Phenytoin - 20mg/kg (loading dose) – (2ND LINE)

Repeat with 5-10mg/kg dose if seizure recurs

Continue with maintenance of 5mg/kg if seizure aborts

If seizure persists, then
next

3RD LINE

C. INITIATE THERAPY FOR LIFE THREATENING CAUSES OF SEIZURE (Eg. HYPOGLYCEMIA, MENINGITIS ETC)

SEIZURE MANAGEMENT IN CHILDREN (DRUG DOSING)

Drug	Route	Dose	Max per dose	Rate	Repeat time	Risk/side effects
Diazepam (1st line)	Rectal	0.5mg/kg	20mg	Over 2mins	Repeat once after 5mins if seizure persists/ recurs	Sedation; Respiratory depression; Hypotension
	IV/IO	0.3mg/kg	5mg(<5yrs) 10mg (≥5yrs)			
Phenobarbital (2nd line)	IV/IO	20mg/kg	1g (1000mg)	Over 20mins (1mg/kg/min); Prepare in 5% dextrose or NS	Repeat once with 5-10mg/kg if seizure persists/recurs	Respiratory depression (esp. if diazepam has initially been given); Prolonged sedation; Hypotension
Phenytoin (2nd line)	IV/IO	20mg/kg	1g (1000mg)	Over 20mins (1mg/kg/min) Prepared in NS only	Give additional 5-10mg/kg if seizure persists/recurs	IV Extravasation Injury; Hypotension; Bradycardia; Arrhythmias [Not recommended for seizures due to alcohol intoxication]