

# Seizures

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# Seizures

Involuntary contractions of muscles in the body  
May result in loss of consciousness

Most common cause is epilepsy

Further: head injury, brain damaging disease  
shortage of oxygen, meningitis, encefalitis  
tumors, intracerebral bleeding  
delivery trauma

# Epilepsy

- Grand mal: generalised seizures
- Petit mal: several seconds seizure
- Akinetic convulsion
- Absence seizures: stiffness of the body, switch off

# Symptoms

Aura: sensitive, sensoric, visceral, psychogenic symptoms

Sudden loss of consciousness

Rigid, arching his back

Breathing- noisy and difficult

Convulsive movement

Saliva may appear in the mouth- bloodstained

Possible loss of bowel control

Later on- muscles relax, normal breathing,

he is again conscious, but not aware of the action

he feels tired, falls into a deep sleep

# First aid

Make space around the casualty

Remove potentially dangerous things

To protect him from injury

Protect the casualty's head

Loosen tight clothing

After convulsion have ceased

open the casualty's airway

Check the breathing

If he is breathing- get him into recovery position

Record vital signs

Transport

# Seizures in children

Raised body temperature- febrile seizures

They are alarming but not dangerous if properly dealt with

Usually between 3. months- 3. years of age

Appears in 4 % of children

Short simple convulsions

Generalised convulsions for several minutes

Sometimes beginning of child 's epilepsy

# Signs

Shaking, arched back

Hot flushed skin

Sweating

Twitching of the face

Breath holding

Possible vomiting

Loss of bowel and bladder movement

Loss of consciousness

# First aid

Soft padding around the child to avoid injury

Cool the child – cold water or compresses

Free airways

Cold fluids, panadol suppositories

Record vital signs



## Infant's seizures:

- hypoglycaemia
- hypocalcaemia
- low magnesium, low sodium

## Metabolic disorder:

Hypercalcaemia (hyperparathyroidism, malignancy in bones)

Hypocalcaemia (hypoparathyroidism)