UNDERSTAND ME
SUPPORT ME

Is it epilepsy?

Questions to ask a witness of an older person presenting with a possible seizure

The answers to these questions can be used to inform an assessment of epilepsy in an older person presenting with a possible seizure.

Older person's name: .....

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Date and time of possible seizure: .....

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What was the person doing at the time of the changed behaviour indicating a seizure could have occurred?

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Did you notice or did the person complain of anything before the changed behaviour indicating a seizure could have occurred?

☐ Yes ☐ No (please tick)

If yes, what did you observe? e.g. altered speech, nausea, sweating, vomiting, change in skin colour, or confusion

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Did the person lose consciousness, become unresponsive, or seem unaware that you were there?

☐ Yes ☐ No (please tick)

If yes, how long did this last?

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What did you observe the person doing, what was the changed behaviour witnessed?

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How long did this change in behaviour last?

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What was the person's behaviour after the possible seizure event? Describe what you witnessed:

Was the person confused, nauseated or aggressive?

☐ Yes ☐ No (please tick)

If so, describe what you witnessed:

Was the person's speech altered?

☐ Yes ☐ No (please tick)

If so, describe what you witnessed:

Were there any other concerns raised by the person?

☐ Yes ☐ No (please tick)

If so, what were they?

Did you take the person's pulse?

☐ Yes ☐ No (please tick)

If so, when did you take it and what was it at that time?

Other comments:

Adapted with permission from *Epilepsy Scotland, A Good Practice Guide, 2008*

This resource is part of a suite of resources targeted to aged care workers and carers of older people, to assist with caring for older people living with epilepsy.

The information contained in this publication provides general information about epilepsy. It does not provide specific advice. Specific health and medical advice should always be obtained from an appropriately qualified health professional.

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