

CARDIO PARTNERS

Newsletter | January 2018



SEIZURES

When the normal functions of the brain are disrupted by injury, disease, fever, infection, metabolic disturbances, or conditions causing decreased oxygen level, a seizure may occur. The seizure is a result of abnormal electrical activity in the brain and causes temporary, involuntary changes in the body movement, function, sensation, awareness, or behavior.

WHEN TO CALL 9-1-1

A seizure lasts more than 5 minutes

The person has multiple seizures with no signs of slowing down

The person appears to be injured or fails to regain consciousness after the seizure

The cause of the seizure is unknown

The person is pregnant

The person has diabetes

The person is a young child, infant, or elderly

The seizure happens in water

EPILEPSY AND FEBRILE SEIZURES

Epilepsy is a chronic seizure condition. The seizures that occur with epilepsy can be controlled with medication. Some people with epilepsy who take seizure medication occasionally still have seizures. Others who go a long time without having a seizure think that the condition has gone away and stop taking their medication, putting themselves at risk for another seizure.

Young children and infants may be at risk for febrile seizures. Febrile seizures are seizures brought on by a rapid increase in body temperature. They are most common in children under 5 years of age. They can be caused by infections of the ear, throat, or digestive system.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Signs of a seizure include:

A blank stare

A period of distorted sensation during which the person is unable to respond

Uncontrolled muscular contractions, called convulsions, which last several minutes

A person with epilepsy may experience something called an aura before the seizure occurs. An aura is an unusual sensation or feeling; such as a visual hallucination; strange sound, taste, or smell; or an urgent need to get to safety.

Signs to look for in febrile seizures:

Sudden rise in body temperature

Change in consciousness

Rhythmic jerking of head and limbs

Loss of bladder or bowel control

Confusion

Drowsiness

Crying out

Becoming rigid

Holding breath

Upward rolling of the eyes

Please be sure to refer to your companies' safety manual for specific seizure related issues