

ACTIVE LEARNING TEMPLATE: **System Disorder**

STUDENT NAME Danielle Rode VN lab Week 2 #2
 DISORDER/DISEASE PROCESS Epilepsy (Seizure)

REVIEW MODULE _____
 CHAPTER _____

Alterations in Health (Diagnosis)
 Impaired breathing, difficulty coping
 Risk of falling, injuries due to fall

Pathophysiology Related to Client Problem
 Transient, uncontrolled brain electrical discharge of the neurons, interrupts normal function

Health Promotion and Disease Prevention
 Prevent seizures w/ antiseizure medication
 Maintain proper diet, get adequate rest, exercise

ASSESSMENT

Risk Factors

- genetic abnormalities
- injury to brain from trauma/stroke
- past infection
- sleep deprived

Expected Findings

- Temporary confusion
- Staring into space
- uncontrollable jerking movements of arms/legs
- Loss of consciousness, awareness
- anxiety/fear

Laboratory Tests

- CBC
- urinalysis
- electrolytes
- creatine
- fasting glucose test

Diagnostic Procedures

- CT
- MRI
- MRA
- MRS
- PET scan
- EEG

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

- Side effects of medication that overlap w/ depressive symptoms
- Age related changes in liver, harder to digest/metabolize drugs = toxicity

PATIENT-CENTERED CARE

Nursing Care

- Assess/Record details/triggers of seizures length, LOC, & VS
- Airway open/effective
- place suction on equipment (bag-valve, O₂ at pt's bedside)

Medications (Antiseizure)

- Carbamazepine
- clonazepam
- gabapentin
- phenytoin

Client Education

- Follow medication dosage
- general safety measures
- avoid alcohol/drugs (abuse)
- get adequate sleep
- how to handle stress

Therapeutic Procedures

- drug therapy
- surgery
- vagal nerve stimulation
- physical therapy

Interprofessional Care

- physical therapist
- Neurologist

Complications

- Status epilepticus: continuous seizure activity, or when seizures recur in rapid succession w/out return of consciousness between episodes.
- during seizures the brain is using more energy than it can supply resulting in permanent brain damage.

Resource: cdc.org / Mayoclinic.org