

Vanguard: the Neuro Network

Adult Seizure/Epilepsy Pathway - Information to support clinicians

SUSPECTED SEIZURE? ... THINK PATHWAY

The Adult Seizure/Epilepsy Pathway has been developed by The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust in order to:

- Support front-line clinicians to recognise and manage seizures.
- Facilitate rapid referral of seizure patients to an outpatient appointment at The Walton Centre.
- Reduce attendances and re-attendances at A&E for patients with seizures.
- Reduce avoidable post seizure hospital admissions and re-admissions.
- Improve access to Walton Centre epilepsy and seizure clinics

Key Facts:

Currently;

- Around a half of patients presenting to the emergency department with a seizure do not get referred on for a neurology or epilepsy clinic appointment.
- Around half of epilepsy patients that attend an emergency departments have not been seen in an epilepsy or neurology clinic for over a year.
- For many patients, admissions and investigations (e.g. CTs) are unnecessary

Key Messages:

If seizure suspected, please;

- Obtain and record eyewitness account (if available).
- Always request an ECG to investigate for a cardiac cause of collapse.
- Use the pathway to refer ALL patients presenting with a seizure to The Walton Centre. This includes patients with a first seizure, known epilepsy and patients with epilepsy and alcohol abuse, regardless of whether patient already has a pending appointment.
- Fax a completed pathway to The Walton Centre, with clinical notes, eyewitness account, ECG and blood results and patient and referrer details. Or send electronically to internal neurology office.
- Tear off patient information sheet and give to patient. This contains information about driving and how to contact The Walton Centre if they have not been contacted about an appointment within four days.

Advice, guidance and ongoing support:

- Visiting neurologists via designated secretary or Walton Centre Specialist Registrar **0151 525 3611** (24 hours).
- Pathway available to view on designated Trust portal and/or paper version or visit: www.thewaltoncentre.nhs.uk/473/pathways-for-health-professionals.html