

Finding Help

National Conference Caritas
Malta Epilepsy Association
March 2018

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My Child had a Seizure.....

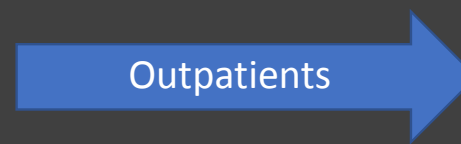
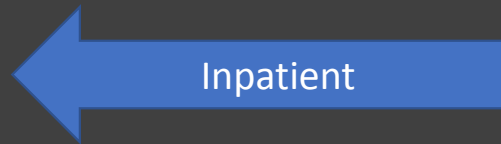
- What do I do when my child has an acute seizure?
- Where do I go to / who do I contact?
- What tests need to be done?
- What medications do I need to give?
- What is the reason for the seizure?
- What do I do if it occurs again?
- Where else can I get help?

First Seizure – Finding Help



Emergency dept : Consultant lead service

- Triage and emergency treatment and investigations of acute generalised seizures are activated
- Status epilepticus protocol activated (Revised 2017)



- Admitting Consultant
- Referral/ advice from Paediatric Neurology Team
- Preliminary testing

- Paediatric Neurology Outpatients
- First seizure appointment within 2-4 weeks of referral from emergency or GP/ General Paediatrician
- Follow up as necessary

Paediatric Neurology Service MDH

Paediatric Neurology team

2 registered Paediatric Neurologists

1 Resident Specialist

1 HST

1 HO

Direct Phone contact:

Paediatric Day Care: 25454919/25454918

Paediatric Neuro Clinic Nurse: 25450000



Expression of interest for Paediatric
Neurology Nurse issued by Health Dept

My Colleagues





How many children do we see?

- Paediatric Neurological case reviews (2017)
 - 1079: Day Cases – 244 urgent reviews
 - 812: Outpatients Day cases : 315 NC (39%)
 - 633 Inpatients
- Reason for Referral :
 - Seizures
 - Headaches
 - Global Delay
 - Movement Disorders\ Gait Abnormalities
 - Other



Meeting the Paediatric Neurologist

- Is this a seizure?: history, mobile phone videos
- Is it focal /generalised?:
- What is the most appropriate testing?
 - Routine EEG
 - 3tesla MRI (with epilepsy protocol)
 - 24-48Hour telemetry
 - Blood tests
- Personalising treatment
- Communicating with child, parents, carers and schools.
- Organising appropriate referrals (*more needs than Epilepsy*)
- Informing them of other services e.g respite, the Epilepsy Support Group & other support groups e.g sib support

Paediatric Neurology Services & Liaison MDH

Epilepsy management

- Medications : free medication Schedule V
- Intractable epilepsy – overseas referral for epilepsy surgery, VNS and ketogenic diet
- Direct Phone contact for break thru seizures

Rehabilitation

- MDT assessments at CDAU
- Educational statementing for LSA

CYPS (Child & Young Persons Services)

- Behavioural /
- Neuropsychological assessments
- Counselling
- Medications
- Social Work liaison



Management Challenges

- Challenges of complex neurodisability
- Complex neuropsychological profiles: non seizure events
- Medication choices: interaction between combination of behaviour modifiers and AEDs
- Family and sib support





Parent Information



- EEG leaflets
- BECTS
- Breath Holding attacks
- Febrile seizures
- Caritas Epilepsy Support Group Leaflets
- Home monitoring devices



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Works in Progress

- Installation of Video telemetry
- Future appointment of a Paediatric Neurology Nurse
- Combined clinics with Child psychiatrists and psychologists
- Ongoing Radiology and genetic team meetings
- Setting up of a local VNS service
- Collaborative research
- Reference Networking for Rare diseases
- Bio informatics once clinical records go electronic



Thank you