New York Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Hospital
Division of Neurology and Pharmacy Department

**ADULT Status Epilepticus Treatment Guideline**

The following is a guideline for the initiation of sequential interventions if seizures continue / do not break:

### 0-2 min

**Stabilization Phase**

- Stabilize patient (airway, breathing, circulation)
- Time seizure from onset
- Obtain baseline vital signs, IV access, 12-lead EKG, fingerstick blood glucose

**Labs:** CBC, BMP, ABG, AED levels*, Toxicology screen
- *Available in-house: Carbamazepine, Phenobarbital, Phenytin, Valproic Acid
- *Send-out levels: Gabapentin, Lamotrigine, Levetiracetam, Topiramate, Lacosamide, Perompanel

### 2-10 min

**Initial Therapy Phase**

- Lorazepam 4 mg IVP at over at least 2 minutes (≤ 2mg/min) STAT, **may repeat dose ONCE after 5 minutes**
- Midazolam 10 mg IM, STAT, single dose only

### 10-40 min

**Second Therapy Phase - 1st AED LD**

- Levetiracetam 3000 mg IVPB over 15 minutes, STAT
- Valproic Acid 40 mg/kg IVPB, maximum rate of 6 mg/kg/min, STAT
- Fosphenytoin 20 mg PE/kg IVPB, maximum rate of 150 mg PE/min, STAT (needs EKG monitoring and BP checks during Loading Dose)
- Lacosamide 400 mg IVPB over 15 minutes, STAT

### 40-60 min

**Second Therapy Phase - 2nd AED LD**

- Use **DIFFERENT AED than first AED agent used**
- Valproic Acid 40 mg/kg IVPB, maximum rate of 6 mg/kg/min, STAT
- Fosphenytoin 20 mg PE/kg IVPB, maximum rate of 150 mg PE/min, STAT (needs EKG monitoring and BP checks during Loading Dose)
- Lacosamide 400 mg IVPB over 15 minutes, STAT
- Levetiracetam 3000 mg IVPB over 15 minutes, STAT

**Start maintenance dose of AED 6 hours after loading dose**

- Epilepsy consult
- Video EEG Monitoring

### > 60 min

**Third Therapy Phase - Refractory Status Epilepticus**

- ICU Transfer
- Intubation (if not already done)
- Vasopressors (on standby)
- Video EEG Monitoring

**Abbreviations**

- ABG: arterial blood gas
- AED: antiepileptic drug
- BMP: basic metabolic panel
- CBC: complete blood count
- CI: continuous infusion
- EEG: electroencephalogram
- EKG: electrocardiogram
- IM: intramuscular
- IV: intravenous
- IVP: intravenous push
- IVPB: intravenous piggyback
- LD: loading dose
- PE: phenytoin equivalents
References


