



SEIZURE

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INTRODUCTION

- A seizure is a sudden, uncontrolled electrical disturbance in the brain. It can cause changes in your behavior, movements or feelings and in the levels of consciousness. Having just one seizure doesn't mean you have epilepsy. If you have two or more seizures or a tendency to have recurrent seizures, you have epilepsy.
- Epilepsy- is a neurological disorder in which brain activity becomes abnormal, causing seizures or periods of unusual behavior, sensations and sometimes loss of awareness.

MAJOR TYPES OF SEIZURES

Seizures are classified into two groups.

1.GENERALIZED SEIZURES:- affect both sides of the brain.

a. Absence seizures :- sometimes called petit mal seizures . It consists of a period of unconsciousness with blank stare. It may look like the person is daydreaming. The person may lose muscle control and make repetitive movements such as

- chewing movements
- rapid breathing
- slight movements or tugging at clothing

b. Myoclonic seizures:- myoclonic seizures are brief shock like jerks of a muscle or group of muscles. Symptoms include jerking or twitching of the limbs on both sides of the body.

c. Tonic- clonic seizures:- a type of seizure that involves a loss of consciousness and violent muscle contractions. It is also known as grand mal seizure. In the tonic phase the body becomes entirely rigid and in the clonic phase there is uncontrolled jerking. These seizures can last from 5 to 20 minutes.

2. **PARTIAL SEIZURES:-** affects only one part of the brain.

a. Simple partial seizure:- affect only one area of your brain. It doesn't cause you to lose consciousness. Its also very quick typically lasting only 1 to 2 min.

Symptoms may include involuntary twitching of the muscles or arms or legs, changes in vision , having unusual tastes or smell.

b. Complex partial seizure:- is also known as a focal impaired awareness seizure or a focal onset impaired awareness seizure. This type of seizure starts in a single area of the brain. This area is usually, but not always , the temporal lobe of the brain. While its most common in people with epilepsy , this type of seizure has been known to occur in people with cerebral palsy. The person having the seizure will be unaware of their surroundings. They may also become unconscious for a brief period of time.

Symptoms may include; be unable to respond, try to hurt themselves, do things over and over like walking in a circle, rubbing the hands together or staring at place.

CAUSES OF SEIZURE

Seizures can stem from a number of health conditions. Seizures are caused by overexcited nerve cells in the brain may disturb the brain and lead to seizure. Some things that can cause seizures include:

- 1.head injury
2. alcohol withdrawal
3. a brain defect present at birth
4. Dementia
5. stroke and heart attack
6. genes researchers have linked specific genes to epilepsy
7. extremely high blood pressure
8. brain infection, including meningitis and encephalitis
9. head trauma
10. low blood glucose levels