



Consensus on Vital Signs in the Epilepsy Monitoring Unit

ECoE Nursing Workgroup, 2023

Elements of neurologic assessment during and after a seizure-like event in the EMU:

- level of consciousness (descriptive words)
- mental status (orientation, object naming, following commands, recall of short phrase)
- movement (face symmetry, pronator drift, UE and LE strength)

1. Vital signs (BP, respiratory rate, pulse rate, and neurologic assessment) are to be obtained every 4-8 hours (depending on facility protocol) and with every event.
2. Staff should continue to monitor the patient after an event until they return to baseline or are clinically stable.
3. If the vital signs taken immediately after an event are abnormal, they are to be repeated every at least 15 minutes until the patient is back to baseline or clinically stable.
4. Reporting of abnormal vital signs will be determined by local facility protocols.