Training Standard: Epilepsy awareness and the administration of emergency medication

This mandatory training standard describes the learning outcomes which must be delivered to staff working under Cambridgeshire County Council contracts or staff working for Cambridgeshire County Council.

Who must have this training?
All staff working in a care support roles

When must the training be taken and when must it be refreshed?
Within 12 weeks of new care worker being in post, thereafter every 1-2 years

- If a specific knowledge gap is identified or there are changes in service need then a full refresher will be required as soon as possible.

How must the training be delivered?
Face to face; 1:1 or in groups.

Who is qualified to deliver the training?
Trainer with PTTLS or Level 3 Award in Education and Training together with subject expertise
Teaching Qualification equivalent to above together with subject expertise

a) Subject expertise: have a nursing/medical qualification and a minimum of 2 years experience of working with people who have epilepsy, to include the practical administration of rectal diazepam and can demonstrate that they keep their knowledge and experience up-to-date by attending training courses, seminars and conferences on epilepsy as appropriate.

All trainers must evidence subject specific Continual Professional Development / Refresher training and train others only to the level at which they have expert knowledge and experience.
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<tr>
<th>Timescale</th>
<th>Required Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Additional information for designated persons</th>
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</thead>
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| Stage 1: During the induction period and/or prior to lone working with people who have epilepsy. | **The Learner must know and understand:** The individual supporting people/person with epilepsy must attend a full day epilepsy awareness and administration of emergency medication training session covering the following:  
  - What is epilepsy?  
  - Causes of epilepsy  
  - Triggers to seizures  
  - Diagnosis and treatments of epilepsy  
  - Recording of seizures  
  - Non epileptic attack disorder  
  - Seizure classifications  
  - Types of seizures  
  - Affects of seizures on individuals  
  - How to support during a seizure  
  - Anticonvulsant medication  
  - Risk assessment  
  - Status epilepticus and serial seizures including emergency responses. | Competent persons/line managers must ensure that learning has taken place. This can be achieved by asking relevant questions and observation of staff practice. A record of this must be kept in the staff members file together with the certificate of training attendance. |
| Stage 2: Within 12 months of supporting people with epilepsy | **The learner must know and understand**  
  - Emergency/rescue medications and administration of these.  
  - Practical demonstration of the safe use of Rectal Diazepam and Buccal Midazolam.  
  During this session the individual must complete a practical demonstration of the safe use of Rectal Diazepam and Buccal Midazolam using a model bottom, and at the end of the session knowledge must be assessed | |
| Refresher                                    | **A recap of:**  
  - What is epilepsy | |

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Training

- Causes of epilepsy
- Triggers to seizures
- Seizure types and classification
- Non epileptic attack disorder
- Sudden and unexpected death in epilepsy
- Risk assessments
- Quality of life
- Status epilepsy and serial seizures
- Emergency medication and safe administration – where applicable.
- Difficulties of administration of emergency medication where applicable
- Side effects of anticonvulsant medication

This session should also provide an opportunity for participants to reflect on and share their experiences of supporting a person with epilepsy, and raise any issues/questions they may have.

2) Staff who have also attended Stage 2 training must in addition to the above undertake a refresher of the safe administration of Rectal Diazepam and Buccal Midazolam to include a practical demonstration.

This should be carried out:

- **annually** where the individual *has not* administered rescue medication in the past 12 months, or
- **every two years** where the individual *has* administered rescue medication in the past 12 months

The standards in this document comply with the following Legislation/Regulations:
The standards comply with the following:
• Joint Epilepsy Council ‘A guideline on the training standards for the administration of rectal diazepam’ Oct 2004
• Joint Epilepsy Council ‘A guideline on the training standards for the administration of Buccal Midazolam’ October 2005
• NICE guidance on the diagnosis, treatment and management of epilepsy in children, young people, adults and older people. 2004

Suggested training resources
Additional support is available using the DVD produced by the National Society for Epilepsy ‘Epileptic Seizures’ and the DVD produced by Speaking up in partnership with the LDP ‘Epilepsy and me’
Epilepsy Action www.epilepsyaction.org.uk
Epilepsy society www.epilepsysociety.org.uk
Joint Epilepsy Council www.jointepilepsycouncil.org.uk

Version Control

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<th>Version</th>
<th>Created on</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Changes</th>
<th>Next Review Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Version 1</td>
<td>September 2011</td>
<td>Learning Disability Partnership, Epilepsy sub group members. - Community Nurses, Sarah Harcourt, Kim Brown, and Emmi Lourenco</td>
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<td>Version 2</td>
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