

Safety Checklist

This checklist includes some examples of practical, simple steps which may help reduce the risk of accident or injury when having a seizure. See how Seizure Smart you are!

Strategies that may reduce the risk of...

To Do	Done	BRUISES OR CUTS
		Around the home reduce clutter and furniture with sharp or jutting edges.
		Use a shower curtain rather than a glass screen.
		Apply a safety film to glass doors or consider installing reinforced glass.
		Use non-breakable crockery and cordless appliances with an automatic switch off.
		When loading a dishwasher, place sharp edges downwards.
		Use knives less by buying pre-sliced food whenever possible.
		Use an electric shaver rather than a razor.
To Do	Done	BURNS
		Make sure hot water system, spas and heaters are temperature controlled.
		Place fixed safety guards around fireplaces. Avoid lightweight and free standing heaters.
		Install wall mounted heaters or central heating where possible.
		Turn the cold water tap on first and off last.
		Use a microwave where possible instead of a stove or oven.
		If using a stovetop, cook with the rear elements and turn pot handles toward the back.
		Serve meals from the counter rather than carrying hot food to the table.
		Avoid lighting candles or fires when alone.
To Do	Done	DROWNING
		Always be aware of the risk when around water.
		Use common sense in areas with spas, fish ponds, lakes and other bodies of water.
		Avoid swimming alone.
		Wear an approved life jacket for water activities such as boating and fishing.
		Avoid higher risk water sports such as scuba diving or high board diving.
		Have a shower where possible rather than a bath. Use a shower chair if necessary.
		If having a bath, use a handheld shower attachment and leave the plug out.
		Avoid showering or bathing while in the house alone, if possible.
		Always supervise children in the bath and around water.
		If seizures occur at regular times, shower at a time when seizures are less likely.
		Have bathroom doors that are outward opening, sliding, divided or easily removed.

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Fact Sheet: Safety Checklist

		Leave bathroom doors unlocked.
		Turn the taps off before getting into the bath.
To Do	Done	FALLS AND BROKEN BONES OR TEETH
		Avoid high-risk activities such as climbing a ladder or rock climbing without a harness.
		Wear a helmet when riding a bike, scooter, horse, skateboard or roller-blades.
		Choose a low bed and avoid sleeping on a top bunk.
		Clear any furniture or hard objects away from the bed.
		Stand well back from the road or platform edge when waiting for a bus or train.
		Use lifts instead of stairs where possible.
		Put rubber-backed mats on slippery or tiled floors.
To Do	Done	SUFFOCATION
		Try to sleep without a pillow or use a firm porous pillow.
		Choose a low wide bed that has a firm mattress with a tightly fitted sheet.
		Use an alarm (eg baby or seizure monitor or intercom) to alert of night seizures.
To Do	Done	MEDICATION MISTAKES
		Lock medications away in a cool, dry place out of reach of children.
		Do not leave medication in pockets or handbags.
		Check with the doctor what to do if medication is missed or repeated.
		Consult the doctor before changing prescribed medication regime.
		Use a diary, pill box or tray to help ensure that medications are taken as prescribed.
		Do NOT change brands without consulting the specialist as seizures may increase.
		Before using other medications or supplements, discuss possible reactions with the pharmacist and doctor.
To Do	Done	OTHER PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS
		Make sure that friends, family and colleagues know what to do in case of a seizure.
		Consider a medical bracelet or ID card if seizures are likely to occur in public places.
		Consider an emergency response alarm.
		Avoid substances that may make medications less effective.
		Use a seizure diary to keep track of your epilepsy, pick up any patterns or triggers.
		Get to know what your seizure triggers are and try to avoid them.

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This information is given to provide accurate, general information about epilepsy. Medical information and knowledge changes rapidly and you should consult your doctor for more detailed information. This is not medical advice and you should not make any medication or treatment changes without consulting your doctor.

