Appendix C: Outline care algorithms

Adults

Suspected seizure

Primary care

A&E
(protocols in place for assessment)
Initial screening by physician

Information obtained about the event
Physical examination

Diagnostic doubt

Suspected epileptic seizure

Treatment with AEDs only in exceptional circumstances
(see box A)

Referral to epilepsy specialist
or other specialist
(e.g. cardiologist)

Referral to specialist as soon as possible
(The GOG recommended within 2 weeks)

Diagnosis by specialist
with investigations as necessary
(see box A)

Uncertain

Epilepsy

Non-epileptic attack disorder

Referral to psychological or psychiatric services

Further investigation, including assessment of other physical causes
(e.g. cardiac) or
Referral to tertiary care
(see box A)

Women with epilepsy
(see box A)

Investigation and classification by seizure type and epilepsy syndrome by specialist
(see box A)

Treatment
(see box A)

Prolonged or repeated seizures
Status epilepticus
(see box A)

Special groups
- People with learning disabilities
- Black and ethnic minority groups
- Older people
(see box A)

Regular structured review for all
(see box A)

KEY: ← As necessary
Children and young people

Suspected seizure

Primary care

Information obtained about the event
Physical examination

A&E
(protocols in place for assessment)
Initial screening by paediatrician

Suspected non-focal seizure

Diagnostic doubt

Referral to specialist as soon as possible
(The CGG recommended within 2 weeks)

Treatment with AEDs only in exceptional circumstances
(see box A)

Referral to epilepsy specialist
or other specialist
(e.g. cardiologist)

Diagnosis by specialist
with investigations as necessary
(see box A)

Uncertain

Further investigation including assessment of other physical causes
(e.g. cardiac) or referral to tertiary care
(see box A)

Epilepsy

Young women and girls with epilepsy
(see box A)

Non-epileptic attack disorder

Referral to psychological or psychiatric services

Investigation and classification by seizure type and epilepsy syndrome
by specialist (see box A)

Treatment
(see box A)

Prolonged or repeated seizures
Status epilepticus
(see box A)

Regular structured review for all (see box A)

Special groups
- Children and young people with learning disabilities
- Black and ethnic minority groups
- Young people with epilepsy
(see box A)

KEY: .................................... As necessary

Appropriate information provided at all stages (see box A)
### Box A Links to the NICE guideline

- Treatment with AEDs only in exceptional circumstances
- Diagnosis and investigations
- Further investigation
- Investigation and classification by seizure type and epilepsy syndrome
- Referral to tertiary care

**Treatment**
- Pharmacological treatment
- Psychological interventions
- Ketogenic diet
- Vagus nerve stimulation

- Prolonged or repeated seizures; status epilepticus
- Women and girls with epilepsy
- Special groups
- Regular structured review
- Appropriate information