

Practice Alert Quick Reference Guide

Epilepsy management

It is important for individuals to have their own Epilepsy Management Plan.

## What is epilepsy?

Epilepsy is a condition affecting the brain that causes different types of seizures depending on what part of the brain is affected. People with disability who have epilepsy are at higher risk of severe and uncontrolled seizures compared to other people with epilepsy.

## What triggers epilepsy?

Specific situations which can increase the risk of a seizure are called triggers. Common triggers include, lack of sleep, missed medication, fever, or illness.

## How can risk be minimised?

There are steps you can take to minimise risk when a person is having a seizure, however in some cases an ambulance may be needed. Providers and workers should have epilepsy awareness and first aid training to make sure they can support participants with epilepsy to be safe.

## What is an Epilepsy Management Plan?

Everybody’s seizures are different and have different treatments and supports for their epilepsy. That’s why it’s important for individuals to have their own Epilepsy Management Plan.

The Epilepsy Management Plan should include details about medications, when to call an ambulance, and other important safety information.

Providers can support participants to develop an epilepsy management plan with their specialist doctor or epilepsy nurse and review it at least every 12 months.

## Find out more

For full details on this practice alert and the obligations for NDIS support workers, and access to other training and resources, please visit [ndiscommission.gov.au/workerresources](https://www.ndiscommission.gov.au/workerresources)