

TAPM Audio Series 2006
Module 4: Seizures in End of Life
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Module Objectives

1. Describe the epidemiology and pathophysiology of seizures seen at the end of life
2. Discuss the management of seizures in this setting
3. Identify medications used to treat seizures, and discuss their use and side effects

Post-test Answers

The correct answer for each question is bolded below.

1. Which of the following statements is *correct*?
 - a. Seizures occur in 75% of patients with brain metastases
 - b. Dementia patients have a four-fold increase in the risk of seizures
 - c. Stroke and nonischemic neurologic disease do not increase the risk of seizures
 - d. In HIV patients at the end of life, up to 70% experience seizures**
2. Which of the following were *not* discussed as a type of seizure?
 - a. Simple partial seizure
 - b. Simple complex seizure**
 - c. Complex partial seizure
 - d. Generalized seizure
3. Tumors with a predilection for brain metastases that are associated with increased risk of seizures include all but which of the following?
 - a. Melanoma
 - b. Lung
 - c. Colon**
 - d. Breast
4. Which of the following statements is *incorrect* regarding status epilepticus?
 - a. Status epilepticus is a continuing seizure lasting longer than five minutes
 - b. Status epilepticus is a series of seizures occurring without recover of consciousness
 - c. Delaying treatment more than two hours does not effect treatment success rates**
 - d. Lorazepam is the pharmacologic agent of choice to treat status epilepticus
5. Of the following medications, which is effective *without* any dosage adjustments if given rectally?
 - a. Phenytoin
 - b. Valproic Acid**
 - c. Carbamazepine
 - d. Gabapentin
6. Anticonvulsant prophylaxis is recommended for all patients with brain metastases.
 - a. True
 - b. False**