*Please note – this learning resource has been produced by the GUMS Academic Team. There may be some minor errors in the questions/answers, and other possible answers that are not included below. Make sure to check with other resources.*

# Case 1

**You are working as an intern on your first shift at the ED, 14 year old Lamotri Jean is brought to you having what his mother describes as a ‘sudden collapse at home’.’**

**Lamotri Jean’s mother describes the episode as, he was standing and then suddenly went rigid, fell, and then began to undergo bilateral rhythmic upper limb movements. He felt drowsy on waking and had bitten his tongue throughout the episode.**

1. How would you classify Lamotri Jean’s episode and what classification system is commonly used for this type of episode?

2. Describe the other types of seizures that are common

**Lamotri Jeans mother becomes curious as to what she saw with her son after his seizure and asks what happens before, during and after a seizure.**

3. Describe the different phases of seizures

1. You then refer Lamotri jean to a neurologist who makes the diagnosis of epilepsy. How did the neurologist come to this diagnosis (aside from having a big brain), what examinations/investigations would be used here?

1. Describe Epilepsy and why is it important to classify it correctly?

**The neurologist decides that Lamotri should be put on an anti-epileptic and put him on Sodium Valproate (Epilim) 200mg twice a day.**

1. What are some general considerations you need to take into account before starting Lamotri on an Anti-Epileptic Drug?
2. Complete the following table on common Antiepileptic drugs stating the brief mechanism of action and indication

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Agent** | **Mechanism of action** | **Indications** |
| Sodium Valproate (Epilim) |  |  |
| Carbamazepine (Tegretol) |  |  |
| Ethosuximide (Zarontin) |  |  |
| Phenytoin (Dilantin) |  |  |
| Benzodiazepines   * Diazepam * Clobazam * Midazolam * Clonazepam |  |  |
| Lamotrigine  (Lamictal) |  |  |
| Phenobarbital  (Phenobarbitone) |  |  |
| Levetiracetam  (Keppra) |  |  |
| Topiramate  (Topamax) |  |  |

**Lamotri is brought into the ER department 10 weeks later after suffering from multiple seizures in the past hour without gaining consciousness in between. You are the ER intern and you take a history from Mrs Jean, his mum, who reveals that Lamotri stopped taking his sodium valproate 2 days ago due to gaining weight from the medication, without consulting his specialist (stopped abruptly).**

1. What has happened to Lamotri
2. What is the definition of this condition and what are some common causes?

**As you are examining Lamotri in the ER, he suffers from another seizure that still hasn't stopped 5 minutes later.**

1. What is the treatment for status epilepticus?

**WHAT IFs**

1. **What if** Lamotri was a 24 year old **female** trying to get pregnant, how would this her affect treatment
2. **What if** Lamotri experiences an overwhelming sense of fear, is sweating and has a rapid heart beat around the time of his seizure? What could Lamotri be suffering from?

# **Feedback – please provide feedback on this PeerBL case here 🡪** [**https://forms.office.com/r/9tYrrG0kKf**](https://forms.office.com/r/9tYrrG0kKf)

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