

Crelling Harnesses for Disabled Ltd.

12 Crescent East, Thornton-Cleveleys, Lancashire, FY5 3LJ

Tel: 01253 852298 Fax: 01253 821780 Email: info@crelling.com Website: www.crelling.com
VAT Reg. No: GB 156 7053 59 Company Reg. No: 3315245 D-U-N-S No: 424389690

Dealing with Seizures policy

Crelling Harnesses Ltd provide harnesses and postural support solutions for use in vehicles and on occasion are used by those who may suffer from seizures, whilst travelling in vehicles it is essential that drivers, carers or support staff have effective knowledge with regard to dealing with passengers who may suffer from conditions resulting in seizures.

There are many types of seizure including: Simple partial (focal) seizures or 'auras', Complex partial (focal) seizures, Tonic-clonic seizures otherwise known as "Grand mal", Absence or (Petit mal) seizures, Myoclonic seizures, Clonic seizures, Tonic seizures, Atonic seizures and Status epilepticus seizures.

For many people with epilepsy, seizures can seem to occur randomly however they can also be triggered by specific conditions, an overview of 'Seizure triggers' can be found at the bottom of this document. The first step in dealing with seizures is identifying and avoiding these triggers, therefore before any of the steps below are taken we recommend that carers and supervisors are fully conversant with the types of known triggers and make arrangements to avoid them wherever possible.

If travelling with a passenger who is prone to any of the aforementioned seizures and is utilizing one of our harnesses we recommend **leaving the harness in place and where practicable observing established practices** as set out by the regulatory authorities the individual is governed by or ensuring the following steps are observed as part of the action plan.

1. Park the vehicle safely as soon as is practicable, note the time that the seizure began.
2. Do not move the passenger unless the location and situation poses an immediate danger.
3. Leave any harnesses and straps in place (providing they are not restricting breathing or circulation).
4. Any straps or clothing that may pose a problem should be loosened as much as is possible.
5. Take steps to cushion the passengers head ensuring they cannot cause themselves any harm.
6. The NHS recommend that an ambulance should be called if: it's the first time someone has had a seizure, the seizure lasts for more than 5 minutes, the person doesn't regain full consciousness, or has several seizures without regaining consciousness or the person is seriously injured during the seizure.
7. When the convulsions stop the passenger can be removed from the harness, safety belt and vehicle (if appropriate) and placed into the recovery position (lying on their side, more information can be found at the following link: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/first-aid/recovery-position/>)
8. Stay with the passenger, talking to them calmly until they recover.
9. Note the time that the seizure finishes.

Seizure triggers:

It is useful to have an indication of the types of seizure triggers which may induce a seizure and these can include: Stress, Lack of sleep, Alcohol consumption, some drugs and medications or in some cases not taking prescribed medication, in women (monthly menstruation), Flashing lights, Missing meals, Illnesses which may cause high temperatures.

More information regarding Seizure triggers can be found at the following link:
<https://www.epilepsy.org.uk/info/triggers>

To assist with quickly removing the passenger from the safety belt or harness we recommend the 'Fixed blade seat belt cutter' which is available from our products page.