

Title	IMDG Code 2016 / SUPPLEMENT / MFAG / Table 5
Effective Date	1-1-2012
Invalid from	1-1-2014
Note	Incorporating Amendment 35-10

TABLE 5

CHEMICAL-INDUCED CONVULSIONS (SEIZURES, FITS)

The main risk of convulsions is impaired ventilation (leading to inadequate oxygen supply to tissues). During a convulsion the casualty may hurt himself. Convulsions may be delayed for hours after exposure to certain chemicals.

FURTHER INFORMATION ON CONVULSIONS: See APPENDIX 5

SIGNS & SYMPTOMS

Single convulsions of short duration

Convulsions may also occur in regular heavy drinkers within about two days after sharply decreased alcohol consumption. Other signs such as hyperexcitability, sleep disturbances, or generalized tremor may indicate a withdrawal syndrome.

TREATMENT

- Remove the casualty to the ship's hospital.
- Prevent the casualty from hurting himself.
- Never restrain the casualty forcibly, as this may cause injury.
- Ensure that there are no hard or sharp objects in the vicinity so that the victim will not injure himself.
- Protect the airway from being blocked by the tongue or secretions.
- Surround him with pillows, clothing or other soft material.
- After the fit is over, let the casualty sleep it off as he may be rather confused and dazed when he comes round. Reassure him, and do not leave him until you are sure he is aware of his surroundings, and knows what he is doing.

• RADIO FOR MEDICAL ADVICE

SIGNS & SYMPTOMS

Frequent or continuous convulsions

TREATMENT

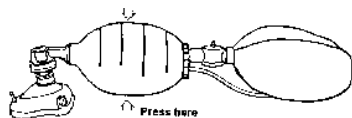
- Place casualty in the recovery position.



- Give diazepam 10 mg as rectal solution.
- **RADIO FOR MEDICAL ADVICE**
- If medical advice is unavailable and seizures continue give a further 10 mg diazepam as rectal solution after 30 minutes.
- Stabilize the cervical spine with a collar if trauma is suspected.

Further advice on convulsions: See Appendix 5

- Give ventilation support with eight litres of oxygen per minute if the victim does not breathe adequately.
- Administer controlled ventilation



Further advice on oxygen administration: See Table 3

- After the fit is over, let the casualty sleep it off as he may be rather confused and dazed when he comes round. Reassure him, and do not leave him until you are sure he is aware of his surroundings, and knows what he is doing.