

# **BPNA Governance and Audit**

## **Review of a Guideline**

*Guideline:* NICE Clinical Guideline 20 (October 2004): The epilepsies: diagnosis and management of the epilepsies in adults, children and young people in primary and secondary care

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*Review:*

This is a model evidence based guideline which has been fully appraised by and endorsed by the RCPCH.

The full version is large but there is a useful “Quick Reference Guide” (QRG) for the diagnosis and management of epilepsies just for children and young people in 18 colour coded easy to read pages.

It does not include neonates.

It sets out key priorities for implementation.

There are no references in the QRG, but it covers diagnosis, investigation, holistic care, AEDs, including off-license indications, but pays too much attention to the license status of the drugs, with 2 whole pages devoted to this in the QRG! There is a useful adverse effects table and “Drugs to be avoided” column. Convulsive and non-convulsive status epilepticus is covered.

Indications for referral to tertiary care are listed and there is advice on information to share and structured review, including SUDEP (but not so much emphasis on death from any cause), young women, and people with learning disabilities.

Highly recommended, and can be used with the emergent BPNA audit tools and Performance Indicators.

William Whitehouse