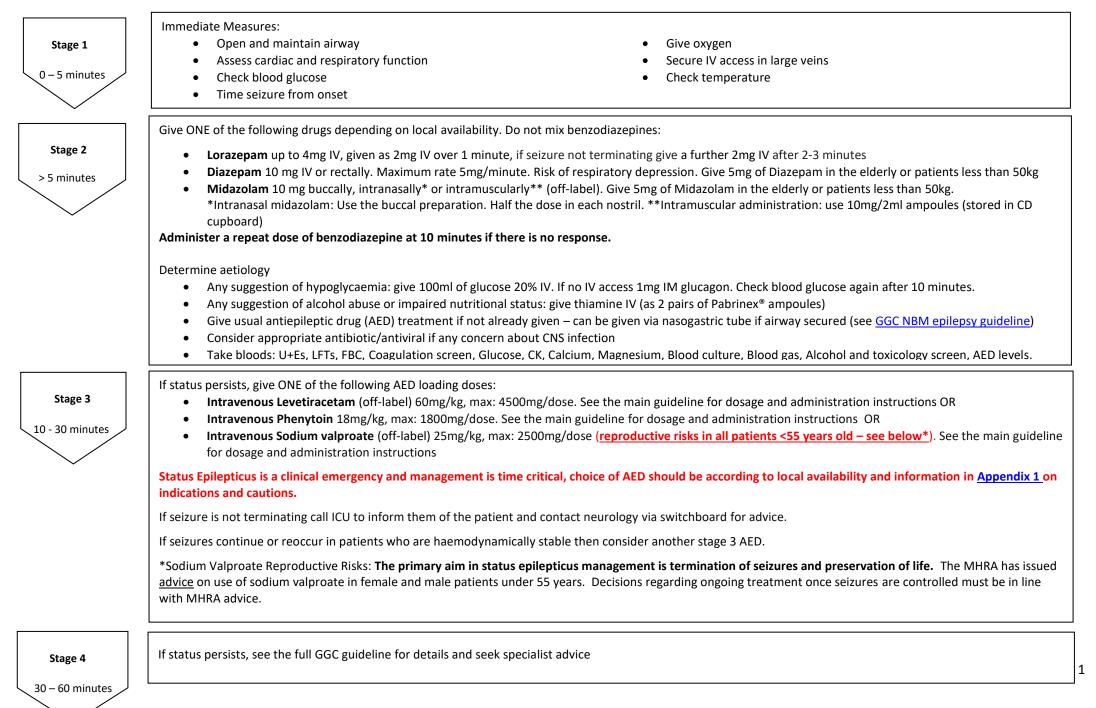
## The Management of Generalised Convulsive Status Epilepticus in Adults



## Appendix 1: Indications and cautions for stage 3 antiepileptic drugs in the treatment of status epilepticus

Drug	May be preferred:	Cautions to consider:
Levetiracetam	<ul> <li>Already taking levetiracetam and suspected poor adherence</li> <li>Alternatives contraindicated or previously ineffective</li> <li>Favourable side effect and interaction profile</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Known allergic reaction</li> <li>Reduce maintenance dose in renal impairment</li> <li>Mood or behavioural disorder (may worsen symptoms)</li> </ul>
Phenytoin	<ul> <li>Already taking phenytoin and suspected poor adherence</li> <li>Alternatives contraindicated or previously ineffective</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Bradycardia</li> <li>Heart block</li> <li>Porphyria</li> <li>Known allergic reaction</li> <li>Caution in liver disease</li> <li>Administration via enteral tubes can be problematic</li> <li>Therapeutic drug monitoring required</li> </ul>
Sodium Valproate	<ul> <li>Already taking sodium valproate and suspected poor adherence</li> <li>Genetic generalised epilepsy</li> <li>Mood disorder</li> <li>Alternatives contraindicated or previously ineffective</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Reproductive risks in female and male patients &lt;55 years* see below</li> <li>Pre-existing liver disease or pancreatitis</li> <li>Known metabolic disorder predisposing to hepatotoxicity</li> <li>Known allergic reaction</li> <li>Mitochondrial disease</li> <li>Avoid in patients prescribed carbapenem antibiotics</li> <li>Porphyria</li> </ul>

\* Sodium Valproate Reproductive Risks: **The primary aim in status epilepticus management is termination of seizures and preservation of life.** The MHRA has issued <u>advice</u> on use of sodium valproate in female and male patients under 55 years. Decisions regarding ongoing treatment once seizures controlled must be in line with MHRA advice.