

# Neonatal seizures: Assessment and management

## Baby with suspected seizure activity

### Observe and monitor:

- Seizure activity
- Temperature, heart rate, respiratory rate & effort, BP, O<sub>2</sub> saturation

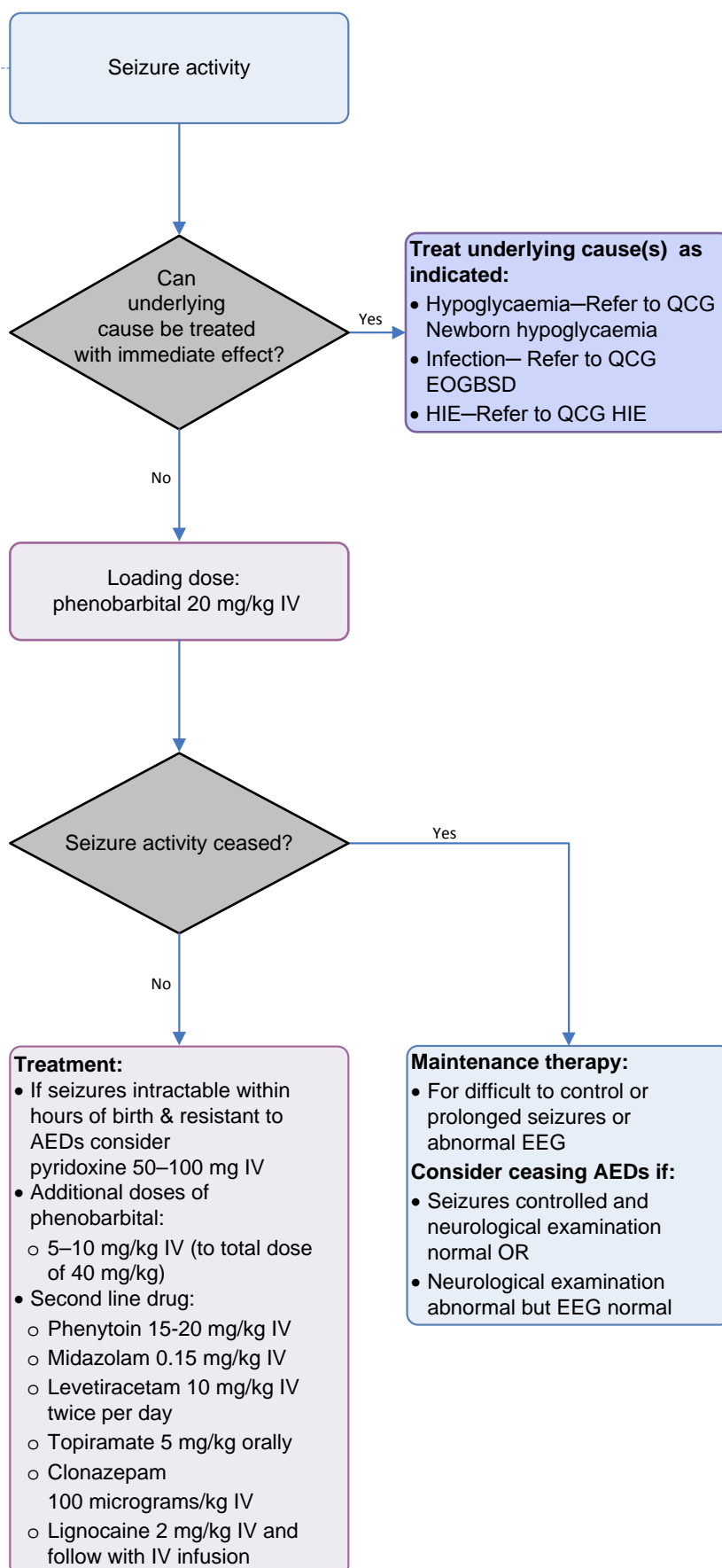
### Treat cardiorespiratory compromise

### Assessment:

- Review history (maternal, perinatal, family)
- Physical examination
- Neurological examination
- Investigate for underlying cause as required
  - Refer to flowchart: *Investigations*

### Management:

- Treat underlying cause
  - Refer to other QCG guidelines
- Commence AEDs if seizures:
  - Duration > 3 minutes
  - More than 2 brief episodes
  - Detected on EEG
- Initiate ongoing communication with parent(s)
- Obtain advice from neonatologist as required



Queensland Clinical Guideline: Neonatal seizures Flowchart version: F17.23-1-V1-R22

**Abbreviations:** AED: Anti-epileptic drug(s); BP: Blood pressure; EEG: Electroencephalogram; EOGBSD: Early onset Group B Streptococcal disease; HIE: Hypoxic ischaemic encephalopathy; IV: Intravenous; QCG: Queensland Clinical Guidelines, >: Greater than

