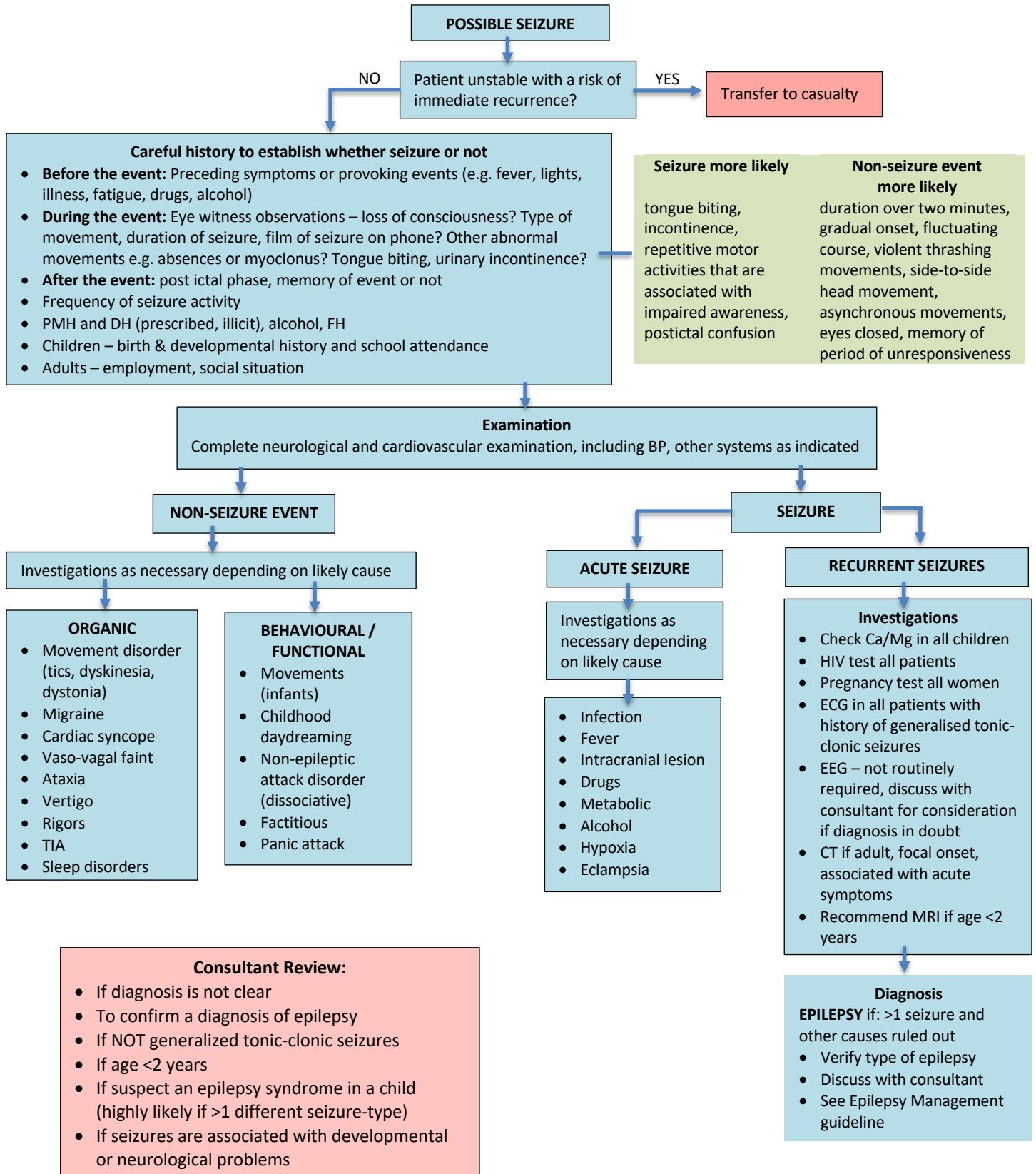


Epilepsy - diagnosis

Key Facts:

- Epilepsy is a chronic non-communicable disease of the brain that affects people of all ages
- Epilepsy is defined as having **two or more** unprovoked seizures. One seizure does not signify epilepsy (up to 10% of people worldwide have one seizure during their lifetime)
- Nearly 80% of people with epilepsy live in low and middle-income countries
- 75% of people can live seizure-free if well diagnosed and treated



TYPES OF SEIZURES

With loss of consciousness: generalised tonic-clonic seizures (primary or secondary to any partial seizure)

Without loss of consciousness: myoclonus; simple partial/focal seizures (motor or non-motor)

With loss of awareness (conscious but no memory of event): complex partial seizures; absences

Febrile seizures: a seizure accompanied by a fever without CNS infection, which occurs in children aged 6 months – 5 years

- Simple febrile seizures are isolated, tonic-clonic seizures, duration <15 minutes, do not recur in 24 hours or same illness and complete recovery within one hour
- Complex febrile seizures have one or more of the following features: a focal seizure, duration >15 minutes, recurrence within 24 hours or within the same illness, incomplete recovery within one hour

References:

2019 Clinical Guide Primary Care International (*adapted for this context and location. PCI have not been involved in, nor hold responsibility for any adaptations. Original can be found at: <https://www.ncd-training.org/open-source-field-guide/>*)

UpToDate – accessed March 2022

Consultation with Dr Vinodhini Clarke, visiting paediatrician, March 2022