

## SAQ 2

A mother has brought her 2 yr old son to your Emergency Department following a suspected seizure. He has been unwell for 2 days with a febrile illness. You suspect the child has had a febrile convulsion.

### a. What is the frequency (in %) of febrile convulsion in children? (1 Mark)

1 Mark for:

- 3% (*RCH Melbourne & Cameron Textbook of Paediatric Emergency Medicine*)  
or
- 3-5% (*Kids Health WA*)

### b. List 4 features associated with a simple febrile convulsion (4 marks)

- *Duration <15 minutes*
- *Generalised seizure*
- *Only 1 seizure in 24 hours*
- *Developmental normal child*
- *No neurological abnormality post seizure*

### c. List 4 factors associated with an increased risk of a child having recurrent febrile convulsions (4 marks)

- *Multiple initial seizures*
- *<12 months age at first febrile convulsion*
- *Low grade temperature at first seizure*
- *Family history of febrile seizures*
- *Developmental delay*
- *Brief duration between onset of fever and seizure*

### d. The patient's mother is concerned about the risk of her child developing epilepsy. List 3 factors associated with an increased risk of future afebrile convulsions. (3 marks)

- *Family history of epilepsy*
- *Neurodevelopmental problems*
- *Complex febrile convulsion*

*If 1 risk factors chance of epilepsy is 2%, if 2 or more risk factors chance of epilepsy is 10%, population baseline risk is 1%*

*Answers taken from Kids Health WA Paediatric Acute Care Guidelines and RCH Melbourne Clinical Guidelines ([http://www.rch.org.au/clinicalguide/guideline\\_index/Febrile\\_Convulsion/](http://www.rch.org.au/clinicalguide/guideline_index/Febrile_Convulsion/))*