

Case 1

A 45-year-old woman is brought to an emergency department because of a seizure. She has a history of epilepsy. Her last seizure was 2 weeks ago. She is on a daily dose of phenytoin. Her blood level is 10 mg/L.

The emergency physician, Dr. Smith, suspects the possibility of a seizure. He orders the following tests: **phenytoin level** and **blood level** (including phenytoin, carbamazepine, and sodium chloride). The results are as follows:

phenytoin level is **10 mg/L**, and **blood level** is **10 mg/L**. Dr. Smith suspects the possibility of a seizure. He orders the following tests: **phenytoin level** and **blood level** (including phenytoin, carbamazepine, and sodium chloride). The results are as follows:

What is the most likely cause of the seizure?

Question

Answer: Phenytoin level is 10 mg/L, and blood level is 10 mg/L. The most likely cause of the seizure is **phenytoin level**.

Explanation: A seizure is a sudden, abnormal electrical discharge from the brain that causes a person to lose consciousness or to have convulsions. The most common cause of a seizure is a **phenytoin level** that is too high.

Phenytoin level is 10 mg/L, and **blood level** is 10 mg/L.

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Phenytoin level is 10 mg/L, and **blood level** is 10 mg/L.

Case 2

A 45-year-old woman is brought to an emergency department because of a seizure. She has a history of epilepsy. Her last seizure was 2 weeks ago. She is on a daily dose of phenytoin. Her blood level is 10 mg/L.

The emergency physician, Dr. Smith, suspects the possibility of a seizure. He orders the following tests: **phenytoin level** and **blood level** (including phenytoin, carbamazepine, and sodium chloride). The results are as follows:

phenytoin level is **10 mg/L**, and **blood level** is **10 mg/L**. Dr. Smith suspects the possibility of a seizure. He orders the following tests: **phenytoin level** and **blood level** (including phenytoin, carbamazepine, and sodium chloride). The results are as follows:

What is the most likely cause of the seizure?

Question

Answer: Phenytoin level is 10 mg/L, and blood level is 10 mg/L. The most likely cause of the seizure is **phenytoin level**.

Explanation: A seizure is a sudden, abnormal electrical discharge from the brain that causes a person to lose consciousness or to have convulsions. The most common cause of a seizure is a **phenytoin level** that is too high.

Phenytoin level is 10 mg/L, and **blood level** is 10 mg/L.

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