

# Refractory status epilepticus treatment

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The treatment [protocol](#) for [refractory status epilepticus](#) is intensive and includes [benzodiazepines](#), [anticonvulsants](#), and eventually [anesthetics](#) for [induced coma](#) when polypharmacy is exhausted <sup>1)</sup>.

If seizures continue or recur after 24 hours following treatment with anesthetics, it is termed [super refractory status epilepticus](#) (SRSE). Because of high [mortality](#) with polypharmacy and continuous [anesthetic](#) use, there has been a great interest to use nonmedicinal devices like VNS <sup>2)</sup>.

## Vagus nerve stimulation for refractory status epilepticus treatment

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<sup>1)</sup>

D. A. Greenberg, M. J. Aminof, and R. P. Simon, Clinical Neurology, McGraw-Hill Education, New York, NY, USA, 9th edition, 2015.

<sup>2)</sup>

Kurukumbi M, Leiphart J, Asif A, Wang J. Vagus Nerve Stimulation (VNS) in Super Refractory New Onset Refractory Status Epilepticus (NORSE). Case Rep Neurol Med. 2019 Jan 21;2019:7852017. doi: 10.1155/2019/7852017. eCollection 2019. PubMed PMID: 30805233; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC6360559.

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Last update: **2024/06/07 02:51**

