During the diagnostic process, doctors will try to determine what caused the seizure and will begin to check for signs of epilepsy along with other treatable conditions. While everyone’s diagnostic process will vary, it may include:

**Detailed Medical History**
This includes questions regarding your overall health, any relatives with epilepsy, and if you have had a high fever, serious head injury, and/or periods of staring, inattention, or breath-holding.

**Detailed Account of the Seizure**
If possible, a person who was present at the time of your seizure should communicate with the doctor to give an accurate description of what the seizure looked like.

**Physical Examination**
This may include assessment of cardiac, neurological, and mental status, as well as common things such as blood pressure, weight, listening to your heart, etc.

**Blood Test**
This will help to identify potential causes of a seizure and/or to identify other significant illness.
MRI
(Magnetic Resonance Imaging)
This is a common test which provides an image of the brain to see if there are any abnormalities which may be causing seizures.

EEG
(Electroencephalogram)
This shows brain wave activity that can be used to assess the risk of seizure recurrence, and it may also help determine seizure type and epilepsy syndrome.

CAT or CT Scan
(Computerized Axial Tomography)
This can be used to determine whether a seizure has been caused by an acute neurological lesion or illness.

After the exams, tests, and a period of observation, your doctor may be able to determine if your seizures are caused by epilepsy or another condition. If you are diagnosed with epilepsy, work with your doctor to classify what type(s) of seizures you are having and begin discussing treatment options.