Midazolam
Emergency Treatment for Prolonged Seizures

Using Midazolam

What is Midazolam for?

It is for stopping seizures that do not self limit. If despite being given, the seizures escalate seek urgent medical help.

If you have been given a prescription for buccal Midazolam written guidelines need to be written for you, this is a midazolam protocol.

What is Status Epilepticus?

Typically a tonic clonic seizure or series of seizures that continues for 30 minutes or more typically Tonic Clonic seizures. This is a recognised emergency in epilepsy.

Does status epilepticus happen in other seizure types?

Yes, it can happen in other generalised seizures and focal seizures too. If this happens emergency treatment may also be prescribed.

How long does Midazolam take to work?

The drug enters the blood stream within 3-4 minutes and reaches maximum concentration in 10 minutes.
The seizure should stop within 5 minutes.

Are there any side effects?

Midazolam is a very strong medication but used as prescribed by your Consultant it should lead to few side effects. Midazolam is a controlled drug.

Some effects include:

- Shallow/slow breathing
- Drowsiness /Light headedness
- Confusion
- Unsteadiness
- Forgetfulness
- Headache
- Low blood pressure
- Vertigo
- Tummy upset
- Rashes
- Visual disturbances

Not everyone will experience all or any of these

Does Midazolam interact with any other medications?

Occasionally. Please discuss with your doctor, nurse or pharmacist any prescription medication you take and any medicines bought at the chemist.
Alcohol will increase the sedative effects of midazolam and can depress breathing.

Everyone prescribed Midazolam must have a written Midazolam care plan/protocol specifically designed for them.

This is signed by the prescribing doctor and a copy given to the patient and carer. It will specify when and how to give the Midazolam for the named person and is a record for the use of this medicine. The person administrating Midazolam must have specific training.

How to administer Buccal Midazolam

Manage the seizure safely

You may need to adjust the patient's position immediately prior to giving the Midazolam to aid administration.

If using Midazolam solution:

- Hold the bottle upright.
- Remove the child resistant cap by pushing it down and turning it anti-clockwise.
- Push the plunger of the empty 1ml syringe completely down towards its tip.
- Insert the syringe into the hole of the white plastic bottle adaptor.
- Hold the bottle and syringe securely and turn the bottle upside down.
- Pull the plunger of the syringe until it holds the required amount of liquid as prescribed by your doctor.
- Turn the bottle upright.
- Remove the syringe from the bottle.
- Put half the liquid in the syringe between the patient's lower gums and cheek (buccal cavity) on one side of the mouth. Do not allow the person to bite the syringe.
- Put the remaining fluid between the patient's lower gums and cheek on the other side of mouth.
- Screw the child resistant cap back on the bottle immediately.
- Return the bottle to the original packaging.
- Store out of reach of children.

After giving Midazolam

- It is important that the person is closely monitored after giving them Midazolam. Stay with them until they have fully recovered and ensure that their breathing returns to normal.

- When seizures have stopped place the patient in the recovery position.

Other formulations of Midazolam may be available if required discuss with your specialist

When to call for emergency medical help (calling 999 for an ambulance)

1. If the seizure does not stop within 5 minutes after administering the Midazolam.

2. If the recovery from the seizure takes longer than one hour.

3. If the person has sustained an injury during the seizure.

4. If shallow breathing, blue tinges around the lips and/or finger tips continue once the seizure has stopped.

When an ambulance is called the urgency of the situation should be stressed.

Giving details of when the seizures started and when Midazolam was given.

Care after sedation

Drowsiness

This patient has been given a medicine to make him/her sleepy and calm. This drug can have a hang-over effect that leaves people drowsy for a short time. This slightly increases the risk of accidents so they will need supervision for a few hours or until the next day. This medicine can make the person irritable, this does not last for long and should disappear by the following day.

Thirst/appetite

This medicine may make the person thirsty.
Extra drinks may be required when they are alert enough to drink safely. The appetite may increase or decrease for a day. There is no need to worry about this. If the person does not want to eat just offer him/her sugary drinks or milk.

Sleep

The normal sleep pattern may be disturbed by the medicine. The person may sleep through to the next day or wake in the middle of the night. Try to encourage their normal routine and the normal pattern should be restored in a day or two.

Medication

Midazolam is prescribed as emergency treatment only. Regular anti-epileptic medication should be given as usual.

For more information on epilepsy you can contact:

Epilepsy Nurse for Adult and Children
and
Pharmacist Practitioner Epilepsy
Contact via switchboard at
Calderdale Royal Hospital (01422) 357171
Huddersfield Royal Infirmary (01484) 342000

Epilepsy Action
Helpline freephone 0808 800 5050
email: helpline@epilepsy.org.uk
Text enquiry to 07797 805 390
Send a Tweet to @epilepsyadvice

The Epilepsy Society
Helpline 01494 601 400

If you have any comments about this leaflet or the service you have received you can contact :

Your Epilepsy Nurse

Contact via switchboard at
Huddersfield Royal Infirmary
Telephone (01484) 342000

www.cht.nhs.uk

If you would like this information in another format or language contact the above.

Potřebujete-li tyto informace v jiném formátu nebo jazyce, obraťte se prosím na výše uvedené oddělení

Jeżeli są Państwo zainteresowani otrzymaniem tych informacji w innym fomacie lub wersji językowej, prosimy skontaktować się z nami, korzystając z www. danych kontaktowych

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਸ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਬਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਪਾਰੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਲੈਣਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ,
ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور فارمیٹ اور زبان میں درکار ہوں، تو
براہِ مہربانی مندرجہ بالا شعبے میں ہم سے رابطہ کریں۔

"إذا احتجت الحصول على هذه المعلومة بشكل مغاير أو مترجمة إلى لغة مختلفة فيرجى منك الاتصال بالقسم المذكور أعلاه"