

MIDAZOLAM Buccal Midazolam For Adults**Other name:** Hypnovel®, Midazolam®

Important note: The following information is intended to add to, not replace, the knowledge and judgment of your doctor, pharmacist or other health care professional.

Why you are taking this medicine?

Midazolam works by controlling seizures (epileptic fits) by stabilising brain activity.

Midazolam belongs to a group of medicines called benzodiazepines. It can be used in a number of conditions but in this case midazolam is used for treating seizures (fits) in an emergency.

When to take this medicine

Your doctor has prescribed buccal midazolam for treating prolonged or recurrent seizures. Your doctor will discuss with you the amount of midazolam to be administered.

The midazolam is given by trickling a small amount at a time inside the cheek. It is rapidly absorbed by this method (buccally) into the body and does not have to be swallowed to work.

Side Effects

Unfortunately as well as having good effects, most medicines have some effects on your body that are unwanted. These are called *side effects*.

- sedation (you may still feel drowsy several hours later)
- loss of balance, dizziness, lightheaded, headache
- gastro-intestinal upset (e.g. nausea, vomiting)
- hiccups, giggly

Important. It is important that you stay with the person until they have recovered. Usually complications are not expected but you still need to monitor the patient, for example, for respiratory depression (shortness of breath).

This list of side effects is **not** complete. Tell your doctor or pharmacist if any of these side effects are of a concern to you.

Administration of buccal midazolam

Follow any instructions given to you by your doctor:

Patient's name _____

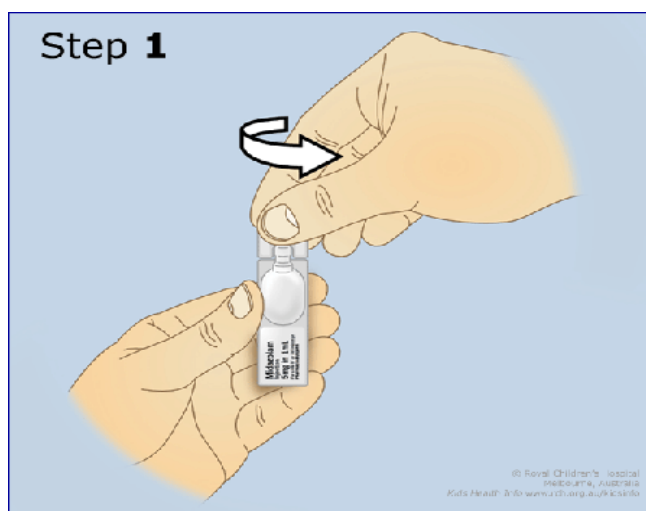
Midazolam dose 15mg = 3mL

Procedure

Note down the time when the seizure started, when you give midazolam and when the seizure (fits) stop

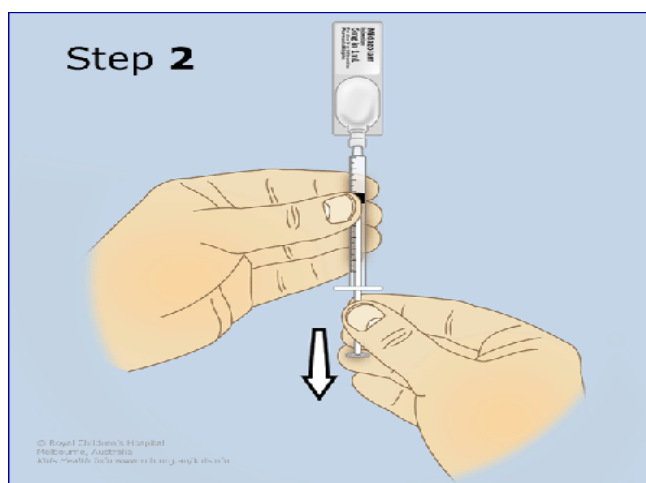
Step 1

Twist open the plastic ampoule of midazolam 15mg/3mL and use the contents of the ampoule directly into the mouth – see step 3.



Step 2

If using a **glass** ampoule of midazolam, withdraw the contents with an attached needle, replace needle cover and discard the needle into the sharps container.



Step 3

If the person has a seizure (fit) when in a chair, protect/support their head and administer the midazolam by opening their lips and trickle it from the syringe (withdrawn from a glass ampoule) or directly from the uncapped plastic ampoule.

There is no need to open the persons jaw. The midazolam solution does not need to be swallowed.



If a person is on their side in the first aid recovery position, open their lips and trickle the midazolam from the syringe or direct from the plastic ampoule into the inside of the cheek lowest to the ground, between the lips and the side teeth.

Recovery position



Watch the persons breathing and seizure activity while they remain lying on their side in the recovery position.

After administering midazolam

- If the person has difficulty breathing (slow breathing or shallow breathing)
- If the seizure (fit) does not stop within 10 minutes
- If you are concerned or experience any difficulties (e.g. the person is agitated, aggressive or hostile)

CALL AN AMBULANCE (DIAL 111)

Other information

- Midazolam plastic ampoules may be labelled 'for injection' (IV or IM), this solution can also be used for buccal use
- Take the midazolam with you at all times just in case you have a seizure (fit) when away from home

Storage

Keep all medicines out of reach of children. Store midazolam at room temperature and protect from light (in a box or wrapped in foil).

Read this leaflet and discuss any questions you have about your medicines with your doctor or pharmacist.