

## Children's medication information leaflet

# MIDAZOLAM

**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 is your child taking this medicine?

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 a seizure (fit) that lasts for more than five minutes. The doctor will discuss with you the amount of midazolam to be given.

- The midazolam is given by trickling a small amount at a time into the space between the inside of the cheek and the teeth, which is called the buccal cavity
- The medicine quickly gets from the cheek into the blood stream to stop the seizure
- It does not have to be swallowed to work
- If you put the midazolam into the middle of the mouth it will not work as well because it cannot get into the blood stream as quickly

### 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 (may 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 sometimes they may occur (e.g. respiratory depression [shortness of breath]) so you still need to monitor your child.

The 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**

The midazolam preparation you are to use is: 5mg/5mL  or 15mg/3mL

Follow any instructions given to you by your doctor:

**Patient's name:** \_\_\_\_\_

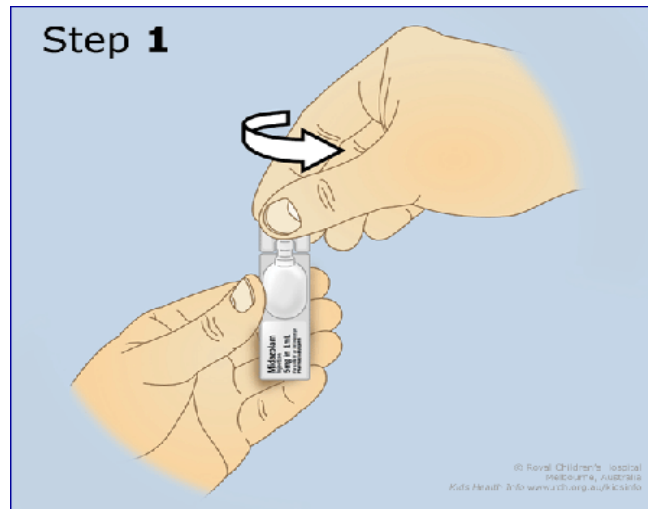
**Midazolam dose:** \_\_\_\_\_ mg = \_\_\_\_\_ mL

**Procedure**

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

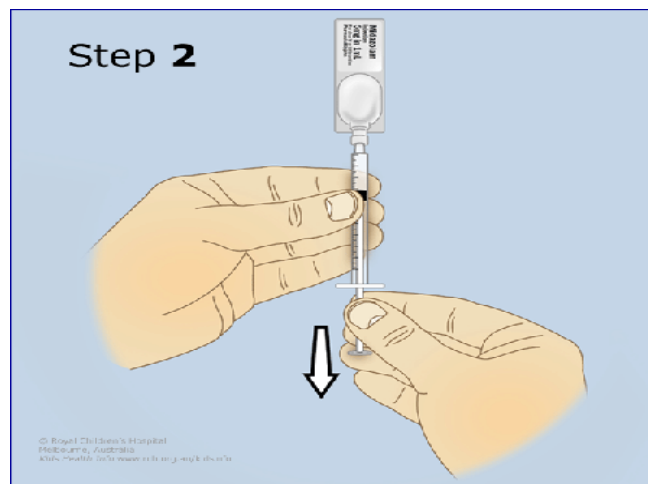
**Step 1**

Twist open the plastic ampoule of midazolam



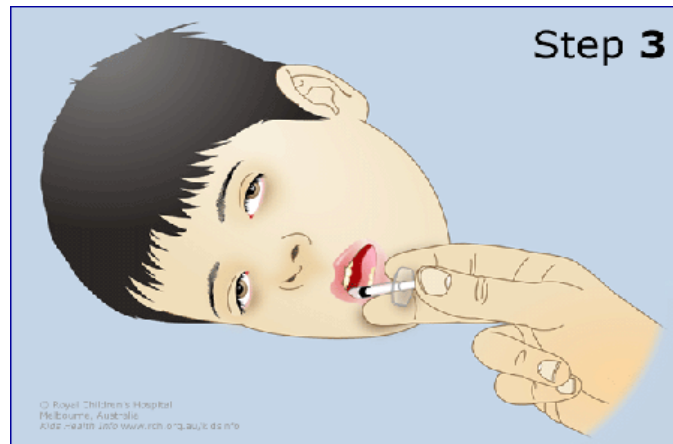
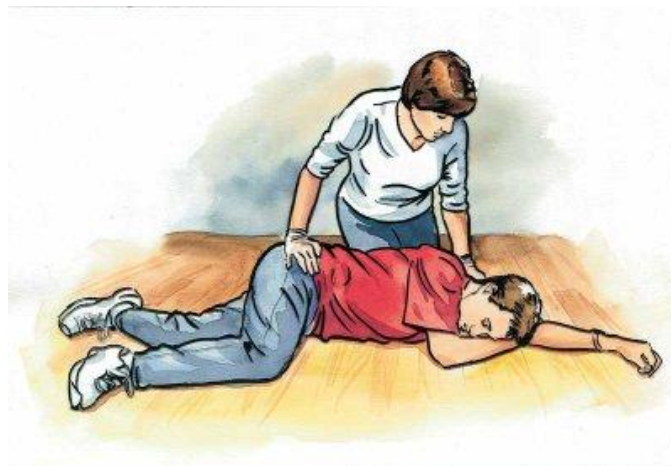
**Step 2**

Insert the syringe into the plastic ampoule and hold the ampoule and syringe (3 mL syringe) upright with the ampoule the highest. Withdraw the amount of midazolam required into the syringe. Push out any big air bubbles and check the amount of midazolam in the syringe. Pull the ampoule and the syringe apart.



**Step 3**

Lay your child on their side in the first aid (recovery position). Open their lips and trickle the midazolam from the syringe into the inside of the cheek lowest to the ground, between the lips and the side teeth. There is no need to open the child's jaw. The solution does not need to be swallowed.

**Recovery position**

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

**After administration of 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 your child experiences any difficulties (e.g. agitation, aggressiveness, hostility)

**CALL FOR AN AMBULANCE (DIAL 111)**

## **Other information**

- Midazolam plastic ampoules may be labeled '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 your child has a seizure (fit) when away from home

## **Storage**

Store midazolam at room temperature and protect from light (in a box or wrapped in foil).

Keep all medicines out of reach of children.

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

This leaflet is based on a leaflet from the Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne