Let's Talk About ...

Intranasal Midazolam (Versed): How to correctly measure and give a dose

What is midazolam?

Midazolam [meh-DAY-zoh-lam], also known as Versed [ver-sed], is a medication that is used to treat certain types of seizures. A syringe is used to spray a fine mist of medication up the patient's nose. The medication is used to help control cluster and prolonged seizures. Prolonged seizures are those that last for more than 3 to 5 minutes. Cluster seizures happen in groups, one right after the other.

What are the side effects?

Common side effects of the medication include:

- Sedation
- Headache
- Drowsiness
- Nausea
- Dizziness
- Vomiting
- Nasal irritation
- Agitation

When should I get help?

Call 911 right away if your child has any of the following symptoms:

- Difficulty breathing (slow, shallow breaths)
- Skin color becomes gray or blue
- Rash, hives, wheezing, or other signs of an allergic reaction

Ask your doctor for instructions on when the medication should be used.

| My doctor recommends giving the medication if: |
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| |

How do I store the medication?

To safely store the vials and protect the medication, it is important to:

- Store the medication at room temperature—between 64°F and 73°F (17°C and 22°C).
- Keep the medication in the bag it came in. The bag will help to protect it from light and heat.
- Store the medication out of reach of children. Make sure to keep it in a location they can't easily get to. Put it in a lockable cabinet, if possible.
- Do not use the medication after the expiration date on the label.
- Throw away the empty syringes and the MAD (mucosal atomization device) after each use.

Getting ready

You will need the following supplies to give midazolam:

Alcohol wipe



Midazolam (vial)



Syringe with needle attached





Preparing the medication dose

1 Remove the plastic cover from the vial and clean the rubber seal with an alcohol wipe.



2 Remove the cap from the needle.



3 Poke the needle into the middle of the rubber seal.



4 Turn the vial upside down. Pull back on the plunger to fill the syringe with milliliters (mL) of midazolam.



6 Attach the atomizer to the syringe by twisting them together.

accidental sticks.





Giving the medication dose

1 Hold the syringe between your first 2 fingers. Put your thumb on the bottom of the plunger on the syringe.



2 Use your other hand to hold your child's head in place. Put the tip of the atomizer against the nostril (opening of the nose). Aim up and out toward the top of the ear.



3 Quickly push the plunger to deliver mL into one nostril.



4 Move to the other nostril and give the remaining mL of medication.



Get emergency treatment for your child as soon as you have finished giving the medication.

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