

Michelle Endresz

From: Heidi Chapman on behalf of Amy Tucker
Sent: Friday, May 3, 2024 1:46 PM
To: Amy Tucker
Cc: Christopher D. Miller; Joseph M. Burczynski; Gregory M. Meola; Bryan Mogle; Peter Aiello; Crystal L. Vitale
Subject: CMO BLAST: Lorazepam and Diazepam Shortage
Attachments: IV Midazolam Communication - Due to Lorazepam and Diazepam Shortage .pdf
Importance: High

Sent on behalf of Christopher Miller, RPh...

Due to a national backorder of injectable lorazepam and injectable diazepam, use of oral therapy or IV midazolam is becoming necessary to meet patient care needs.

In the attached document, please find details of the shortage and current management plans.

Best,
Amy

Amy Tucker, MD, MHCM
Chief Medical Officer
Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs, Norton College of Medicine
Upstate Medical University

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Use of Intravenous Midazolam in Place of Lorazepam/Diazepam due to Drug Shortage

The institution is currently experiencing a severe shortage of injectable lorazepam (Ativan) and diazepam (Valium). This is a national-level shortage. As a result, injectable midazolam will need to be used as an alternative for patients requiring IV therapy. All formulations of oral diazepam and lorazepam remain readily available and oral administration should and will be advocated whenever possible.

- Beginning today (5/3/2024), pharmacy will communicate with providers to have orders changed to midazolam when IV lorazepam or IV diazepam is ordered.
- An alert message has been added to the IV lorazepam/diazepam orders in EPIC. This will alert the provider of the shortage upon ordering, and provide a pathway to switch the order to either an oral formulation or IV midazolam. **(please see screen shot example below).**
- The adult alcohol withdrawal order set is being updated to provide IV midazolam as an option.
- A limited supply of IV lorazepam/diazepam currently remain available, and may still be used for extenuating circumstances. However, to preserve supply, a substitution to IV midazolam will be advocated to the provider whenever possible.
- Midazolam will be loaded to Pxyis in locations where lorazepam/diazepam have been loaded.
- The duration of the shortage is not fully known, but it may last several weeks. Pharmacy will aggressively work to acquire more lorazepam/diazepam and update the plan accordingly.

Midazolam Administration: Since midazolam is not on the IV push list for med/surg units, non-emergent IV administration should be performed by mixing the midazolam dose in 50 mL of normal saline and administering over 30 minutes. These instructions have been added to the administration instruction portion of the midazolam order and the nursing MAR in EPIC. **Please see screen shots below.**

- Monitoring with IV midazolam administration should occur similar to current practice for IV lorazepam and diazepam.
- For emergent needs on med/surg floors where IV push midazolam may be necessary (i.e., acute seizure), a RRT should be called to allow for IV push administration via SWAT as necessary.
- **Pediatrics** will continue to utilize their preferred routes of IM or intranasal administration of midazolam according to current standards of practice. Dilution in an appropriate volume bag/syringe may also be necessary based upon clinical need.

This messaging is being shared with all providers and nursing across both campuses at Upstate.

midazolam (PF) (VERSED) injection 2 mg		✓ Accept	✗ Cancel
Reference Links:	• Lexi-Drugs		
Dose:	<input type="text" value="2"/> mg <input type="button" value="1 mg"/> <input checked="" type="button" value="2 mg"/> <input type="button" value="5 mg"/>		
	Calculated dose: 2 mL		
Route:	<input type="text" value="Intravenous"/> <input checked="" type="button" value="Intravenous"/> <input type="button" value="Intramuscular"/>		
Frequency:	<input type="text" value="Once"/> <input checked="" type="button" value="Once"/> <input type="button" value="Q2H PRN"/> <input type="button" value="Q4H PRN"/>		
At	<input type="text" value="5/3/2024"/> <input checked="" type="button" value="Today"/> <input type="button" value="Tomorrow"/> <input type="text" value="0845"/>		
Admin Instructions:	+ Add Admin Instructions		
Prod. Admin. Inst.:	For IV administration on ADULT MED/SURG units, mix in 50 mL of normal saline and administer over 30 minutes.		
Note to Pharmacy:	+ Add Note to Pharmacy		

midazolam (PF) (VERSED) injection 2 mg

New

2 mg, Intravenous, Once, 1 dose, On Fri 5/3/24 at 0845

Interactions

Edit i-Vents

New i-Vent

Order Hx

Show Charge

Label Preview

Messages

Dispense

Order: 380252443

Clinical Details

Dispensable: midazolam (VERSED) injection 2 mg/2 mL

Order Dose

2 mg

Admin Dose (amount)

2 mg (2 mL)

Route

Intravenous

Volume

2 mL

Calculate Volume

Frequency

Once

of Doses

1

First Dose

Today 0845

Scheduled Times

5/3/2024 | 0845

Additional Details

Product-Specific Administration Instructions

For IV administration on ADULT MED/SURG units, mix in 50 mL of normal saline and administer over 30 minutes.

Products to Dispense

Product	Order Dose	Admin Dose	Dispense	Package
MIDAZOLAM HCL (PF) 2 MG/2ML IJ SOLN	2 mg	2 mg (2 mL)	2 mL	2 mL Vial

Dispense Details

Dispense From

UH PYXIS LOAD

First Doses

UH PYXIS LOAD

Dispense Code

Unit Dose

Dispense only once

Other Details

Ordered by

Bryan T Mogle, PharmD Today 0840

Reference Links

Lexi-Drugs

Nursing sees this on the MAR on the top left here:

midazolam (PF) (VERSED) injection 2 mg

Dose: 2 mg : Intravenous : Once

Show Flowsheet

Order Information

Product Instructions:

For IV administration on ADULT MED/SURG units, mix in 50 mL of normal saline and administer over 30 minutes.

Ordered Admin Dose: 2 mL = 2 mg of 2 mg/2 mL

Dispense Location: Pharmacy to load in Pyxis

Frequency: Once

Route: Intravenous

Ordered Dose: 2 mg

Order Start Time: Today 05/03/24 at 0845

Order End Time: 06/02/24 at 0844

Administrations

Remaining: 0 (+1 in progress)

References: Lexi-Drugs

Linked Line: Not Linked (as of Today 05/03/24 at 0841)

Next Actions

05/03 0845

Administration Details

Action

New Bag

Date

05/03/2024

Time

0841

Comment

Route

Intravenous

Site

Dose

2 mg

Rate

mL/hr

Order Concentration: 1 mg/mL

Pump Information

This medication is blocked from using pump associations. Manually program the pump.

Alternative Recommended

You selected:

LORazepam (ATIVAN) injection 0.5 mg: 0.5 mg, Intravenous, Once PRN, Starting today at 1021, For 1 dose Benzodiazepines have been associated with confusion and falls in the older adult. Consider limiting use unless for alcohol withdrawal, seizures, extreme agitation, or if there is no acceptable clinical alternative.

Details

The medication you are trying to order is currently either in short supply or is unavailable (shortage/backorder). Please consider ordering an alternative below.

Alternatives

Alternative
<input type="radio"/> LORazepam (ATIVAN) tablet
<input type="radio"/> midazolam (VERSED) injection
<input type="radio"/> LORazepam (ATIVAN) 2 MG/ML concentrated solution

Continue with:

☐ LORazepam (ATIVAN) injection 0.5 mg: 0.5 mg, Intravenous, Once PRN, Starting today at 1021, For 1 dose Benzodiazepines have been associat...