



Giving your child Buccolam® (midazolam oromucosal solution) for prolonged seizures

This leaflet gives advice to parents and carers on administering Buccolam® (midazolam oromucosal solution) to a child who is having a prolonged seizure. If there is anything you do not understand or you have any questions, please speak to the paediatric epilepsy nurse or community children's nurse.

Why has Buccolam® been prescribed?

Most seizures will stop within the first 5 minutes but occasionally they can go on for longer. To try and prevent them from continuing for longer than they should, Buccolam® has been prescribed for home and other settings, such as nursery/school.

What is midazolam?

Midazolam belongs to a group of medications called benzodiazepines, which are used to treat a number of conditions including seizures.

There are different preparations of midazolam available. This leaflet is specifically devised for Buccolam® (pre-filled syringe).

Each syringe = 1 dose of midazolam.

How much should I give?

Your GP or consultant will prescribe the correct dose for your child.

Are there any side effects?

Midazolam is a muscle relaxant. It also has a sedative effect which means it can make your child sleepy, or they may become confused or restless. Very rarely, it may slow down their breathing.

Does the midazolam work straight away?

No, it can take 5-10 minutes to work as it needs to be absorbed into the blood stream.

How is Buccolam® given?

Before use:

- Always check the expiry date. **If it is out of date, do not use.**
- Buccolam® should not be used if any of the protective plastic tubes containing the syringes have been damaged.
- Take one plastic tube, break the tamper proof seal and remove the syringe containing Buccolam®.

- Remove and discard the red syringe cap, ensuring the inner translucent tip-cap has also been removed, before use to avoid choking. Do not attach a needle on the syringe - Buccolam® must not be injected, **it is for oral use only**.
- Buccolam® needs to go into the space between the inside of the cheek and the teeth, which is called the buccal cavity. Your doctor or nurse will show you what to do.
- The medicine quickly gets from the cheek into the blood to stop the seizure. 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.
- Your child does not need to swallow the medicine. (It is not harmful if they do swallow it, but it will not work as well).
- Gently pull back the cheek, just enough to put the end of the syringe into the side of their mouth (as picture shows).
- Angle the syringe to ensure that the end is well within the buccal cavity.
- Slowly press the syringe plunger to release the full amount of liquid into the side of the mouth.
- Don't try to squirt the liquid into the mouth or release it too quickly, as this may result in spillage. It may be easier to give about half the dose into one side of the mouth, and the other half into the other side.
- Gently massage each side of the cheek to help the Buccolam® absorb.



When do I need to call an ambulance?

It is advisable to call for an ambulance if:

- If it is the first time your child has ever had the midazolam.
- If the seizure has not stopped 5 minutes after administration.
- If your child appears to be struggling to breathe.
- If your child has been significantly injured during a seizure.

Can I give a second dose if the first dose hasn't worked?

No, unless your child's care plan states they can have more than 1 dose in 24 hours. If the seizure does not stop within 5 minutes or your child vomits following administration, **the medication MUST NOT be repeated** and an ambulance should be called.

Where should I keep this medicine?

- Keep the medicine in a cupboard, away from heat and direct sunlight. It does not need to be kept in the fridge.
- Make sure that children cannot see or reach the medicine.
- Keep the medicine in the container it came in.
- Check the expiry date and ensure new medication if ordered prior to expiry so that you always have it to hand.

For further advice, please contact:

Paediatric Epilepsy Nurse, Dingley Children's Centre: 0118 322 7531 (Option 1)

Paediatric Epilepsy Nurse Mobile: 07385 384089

Community Children's Nurses: 0118 378 3932

Dolphin Ward 0118 322 8075 / Lion Ward 0118 322 8105

Children's A&E: 0118 322 6876

To find out more about our Trust visit www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk

Please ask if you need this information in another language or format.

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Next review due: February 2027.