

DIAZEPAM (Valium®)

Classification: ♦ Anticonvulsant
♦ Sedative

Actions: ♦ Depresses the central nervous system
♦ Relaxes skeletal muscles
♦ Decreases patient recall (amnesic effect)

Indications: ♦ Suppress seizure activity
♦ Prevent/suppress seizures caused by nerve agent poisoning
♦ Sedation prior to synchronized cardioversion

Contraindications: ♦ Shock/hypotension
♦ Head injury
♦ Acute alcohol intoxication

Adverse Effects: *Cardiovascular* *Neurological*
tachycardia slurred speech
bradycardia weakness
hypotension dizziness

Respiratory drowsiness
depression confusion
apnea blurred vision

Administration: **Maximum administration > 20mg IVP**
5-10mg slow IVP at 5mg/minute. Titrate to suppress seizure activity or until sedation occurs for synchronized cardioversion. May repeat as needed to maximum of 20mg.

Severe organophosphate nerve agent poisoning:

Maximum administration > 10mg IM

10mg IM one time via autoinjector or syringe if actively seizing or after administration of 3 Mark-Is (atropine and pralidoxime chloride).

Pediatrics: **Maximum administration > 10mg IVP or PR**
0.2mg/kg slow IVP at 1mg/minute or 0.5mg/kg PR. Titrate IV dose to suppress seizure activity or until sedation occurs for synchronized cardioversion. May repeat IV dose as needed to a maximum dose of 10mg. May repeat 0.25mg/kg PR in 15 minutes one time only, not to exceed maximum of 0.75mg/kg or total of 10mg.

Severe organophosphate nerve agent poisoning:

Maximum administration > 10mg IM

0.2mg/kg IM one time only (do not use auto-injector) - if actively seizing after administration of 1 dose of atropine and pralidoxime chloride.

Onset: 1-5 minutes

Duration: 2-3 hours

Precautions:

Monitor and prepare to support both airway and ventilations. May cause significant respiratory depression.

Administer slowly, avoid small veins, and flush tubing after administration. May cause pain, burning, phlebitis and thrombosis at IV site.

Flush IV line before and after administration. Incompatible with other medications and D₅W. Give only through IV line of NS using IV port closest to patient.

DO NOT USE AUTOINJECTOR IN PEDIATRIC PATIENTS. Muscle and nerve damage may occur in pediatric patients if the force of injection is excessive.

Note:

May be given for focal seizures, but only if patient has an altered level of consciousness.

Antidote for reversal of respiratory depression is Romazicon® (flumazenil).



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LOS ANGELES COUNTY