



coordinated care™

Anticonvulsants – midazolam (Intranasal)

WA.PHAR.32 Anticonvulsants Midazolam (Intranasal)

Background:

For people with seizures who experience status epilepticus (prolonged or recurrent seizures), getting the earliest possible treatment is important. The availability of treatments at home, before emergency medical services (EMS) arrive or before being treated in an emergency room, is currently limited (Table 1), but crucial.

Intranasal (within the nose) therapies, such as midazolam, have a lot of promise, due to rapid absorption and relative ease of administration once the caregiver receives some training. Cluster seizures or status epilepticus are serious medical events and having an available rescue medication allows for the earliest possible treatment.

Medical necessity

Drug	Medical Necessity
Midazolam HCl (for intranasal administration)	Midazolam may be considered medically necessary when: Administered intranasally as a rescue agent for prolonged seizures

Clinical policy:

Drug	Clinical Criteria (Initial Approval)
Midazolam HCl (for intranasal administration)	Midazolam may be covered when ALL of the following are met: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Documentation of seizure/epilepsy 2. Administered intranasally as a rescue agent for prolonged seizures lasting longer than 3 minutes 3. Prescribed by or in consultation with a neurology/epileptology specialist 4. Documentation of patient and/or caregiver has been provided proper training on administration and follow-up after administration of midazolam 5. Documentation that patient and/or caregiver has been counselled on the risks of use with midazolam 6. Maximum 10mg per dose
	Approve for 6 months
	Criteria (Reauthorization)
	Documentation of clinical benefit
	Approve for 12 months

Route of administration comparison for seizure rescue medications

	Advantages	Disadvantages
Oral	Currently available, portable.	May be difficult to administer during a seizure. Relatively longer time to onset of action.
Rectal	FDA approved. Faster time to action than oral administration.	Difficult to administer in many settings.
Intramuscular	Easy administration.	Complications at injection site. Unreliable absorption.
Nasal	Rapid absorption. Can be given from any position.	Administration does require minimal training. Risk of injury to nasal cavity.

Dosage and quantity limits

Drug Name	Dose and Quantity Limits
Midazolam HCl (for intranasal administration)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13-40kg: 5mg once; 5 doses per 30-days >40kg: 10mg once; 5 doses per 30-days

Coding:

HCPCS/ICD10 Code	Description
J2250	Injection, midazolam hydrochloride, per 1 mg

Definitions

Term	Description
Prolonged seizures	Seizures lasting longer than 3 to 5 minutes

References

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