



Yolo County Emergency Medical Services Agency

Quick Reference

Revised Date: June 1, 2023

Medication Profile

Midazolam Hydrochloride

(Versed)

Class:

Short-acting benzodiazepine/CNS agent
Sedative-Hypnotic
Anticonvulsant

Action:

CNS depressant with muscle relaxant, anticonvulsant, and anterograde amnesic effects. Intensifies activity of gamma-aminobenzoic acid (GABA), a major inhibitory neurotransmitter of the brain, by interfering with its reuptake and promoting its accumulation at neural synapses. Also provides some retrograde amnesic effects, making it useful after cardioversion.

Onset: 1-10 minutes

Peak: 20-60 minutes

Duration: 2-6 hours

Indications:

Seizures
Sedation

Contraindications:

Hypersensitivity/allergy

Side Effects:

CV: Fluctuations in vital signs, hypotension
CNS: Oversedation, headache, retrograde amnesia, euphoria, drowsiness, coma
RESP: Respiratory depression, respiratory arrest, cough, laryngospasm
GI: Nausea, vomiting, hiccough (diaphragmatic spasm producing a cough/noise)
EENT: Blurred vision, diplopia (seeing two objects), nystagmus

Notes:

- Midazolam Hydrochloride is an effective chemical restraint and should be used early in the restraint process especially with patients showing signs of excited delirium.
- Can be given in conjunction with acetaminophen, fentanyl or ketamine.

This document is not a substitute for Protocols and Procedures.

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