

## What to do after a dose is given

Discuss who should be called in the event of a seizure or bleed with your doctor or nurse.

## Potential side effects

**Drowsiness:** some people feel drowsy when they take Midazolam. It is advisable not to drink alcohol, and avoid driving if you are feeling drowsy.

**Other side effects:** occasionally you may also experience dizziness or a dry mouth. If you do become light headed this usually passes on its own, but if it does not tell your doctor, nurse or pharmacist.

## How to get your medication supply

Your GP, hospital doctor or nurse prescriber will provide you with a prescription for your medication. It is important you never run out of your medication, and ensure you get your next prescription to your pharmacy a few days in advance. When you, or a representative collect your medication a signature and photographic identification may be requested.

## Storage

It is important that your medicines are stored in their original packaging in a safe, dry place out of the reach of children and pets. They should be easily accessible, and taken with you (e.g. in a bag) if you are going out for the day.

## Disposal

Return unused medication that is no longer needed, to the dispensing pharmacy for safe disposal. Empty syringes can be disposed of in a general household rubbish bin.

## Taking other medicines

Use a regular community pharmacy and seek their advice when buying over the counter medicines / herbal products.

## Where I can find out more information

Contact your doctor, nurse or pharmacist if you have any queries or would like more information after reading this leaflet.



**Jersey Hospice Care**  
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# PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET

## Buccal Midazolam



## Contact Us

### Specialist Palliative Care Team

Tel: (01534) 876555

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## Why you have been given this leaflet

You may find this information helpful if you, your child, a family member or someone you care for have been prescribed buccal Midazolam by a doctor or nurse.

Use of buccal Midazolam in adults, and as a 'crisis' dose in case of a severe bleed is outside its product licence. In palliative care, medicines are quite often used this way and there is experience and research to support this. If you would like further information on this we have another leaflet, or you can speak to your doctor, nurse or pharmacist.

You should also read the patient information leaflet provided with the medicine, although its use in palliative care will not be mentioned.

## What Midazolam is used for

Midazolam is a benzodiazepine, like Diazepam or Lorazepam. It is used in both adults and children, and can be administered by different routes. This leaflet refers to the Midazolam given by the buccal route, between the gum and cheek.

It is mainly used as a 'crisis' dose to help calm patients and relieve symptoms if they have a sudden prolonged seizure, or in some cases a severe bleed (haemorrhage).

## What form the medicine comes in

The medicine is supplied in a prefilled syringe, and is called Buccolam®.

Syringes are colour-coded based on the prescribed dose for a particular age:

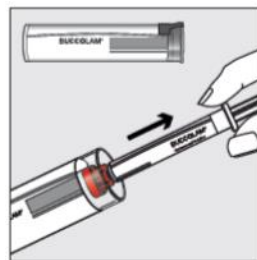
- 3 months to less than 1 year: Yellow (2.5mg)
- 1 year to less than 5 years: Blue (5mg)
- 5 years to less than 10 years: Purple (7.5mg)
- 10 years to less than 18 years: Orange (10mg)

Adults can also be prescribed a 10mg (orange) syringe, although a lower dose may be used in elderly or frail patients.

## How it is given

Buccal Midazolam is most often used as a crisis dose for a seizure or severe bleed. In this situation a family member, carer or healthcare professional will give the dose to you.

When you are prescribed buccal Midazolam your doctor, nurse or pharmacist will explain to you and your family or carer when and how the dose should be given.

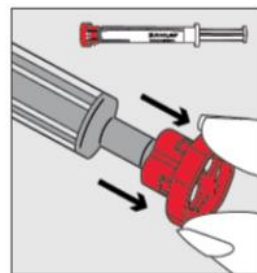


### Step 1

Hold the plastic tube

Break the seal at one end and pull the cap off

Take the syringe out of the tube

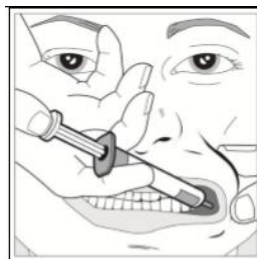


### Step 2

Pull the red cap off the tip of the syringe

Dispose of it safely

Check there is none of the red plastic cap left in the syringe end

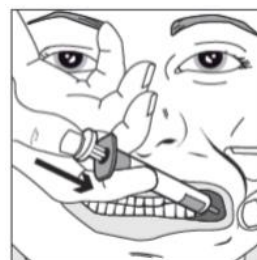


### Step 3

Using your finger and thumb gently pinch and pull back the person's cheek

Do not put your fingers in their mouth, due to risk of the person biting down on it

Put tip of syringe into the back of the space between the inside of the cheek and lower gum (buccal cavity)



### Step 4

Slowly press the syringe plunger until it stops

The full amount of solution should be inserted slowly into the space between the gum and the cheek

For larger volumes or in children, you can give approximately half the dose slowly into one side, and the rest into the other side of the mouth