

Diazepam**5.08****PHARMACOLOGY AND ACTIONS**

Benzodiazepine drug that acts as an anticonvulsant and sedative.

INDICATIONS

- Active seizures.
- May be used as sedation prior to cardioversion.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Alcohol intoxication, neurologic, or respiratory depression.

PRECAUTIONS AND SIDE EFFECTS

- Since diazepam can cause respiratory depression and/or hypotension, the patient must be monitored closely. Diazepam should not be given to adult patients without a good IV line in place and a bag valve mask ready.
- Paradoxical excitement or stimulation sometimes occurs.
- Most likely to produce respiratory depression in patients who have taken other depressant drugs, especially alcohol and barbiturates, or when given rapidly.
- Consider rectal administration if unable to administer IV, especially in seizing children.
- May be given rectally if IV formulation is unavailable.
- Administration for sedation should be done only in consultation with OLMD.

ADMINISTRATION

Adult:
5-10 mg IV or 0.2 mg/kg per rectum, MAX 20 mg

Pediatric:
0.2-0.5 mg/kg. Give slow IV or per rectum until seizure stops, MAX 5 mg (Cat B) 📞