

**DIAZEPAM (Valium®)**

**(To be used ONLY under order of the LEMSA medical director when Midazolam is unavailable or as part of a disaster cache)**

**Classification:** Anticonvulsant/Tranquilizer

**Actions:**

1. Promotes muscle relaxation through inhibition of spinal motor reflex pathways.
2. Suppresses seizure activity through suppression of the motor cortex of the brain.
3. Produces amnesic effect
4. Skeletal muscle relaxant

**Indications:**

1. Active, continuous seizure
2. Status epilepticus
3. Sedation prior to cardioversion
4. Acute behavior disorder
5. Severe muscle spasms (base physician order only)

**Contraindications (relative):**

1. **History of hypersensitivity to the drug**
2. **Hold for CNS depression, respiratory depression and hypotension**
3. **ALOC of unknown etiology**
4. **Eclampsia (base physician order only)**

**Adverse Effects:**

**Cardiovascular**

Hypotension

**Respiratory**

Depression

**Neurological**

Dizziness

Ataxia

Fatigue

Pain/burning at injection site

**Administration:**

**ADULT DOSE**

1. **Seizure:** 0.3mg/kg slow IVP, titrated to terminate seizure activity, not to exceed 20 mg. If unable to establish an IV, administer 0.3 mg/kg per rectum (PR) via a lubricated 3 ml syringe, titrated to terminate seizure activity, not to exceed 20 mg
2. **Pre-cardioversion:** 2.5-10 mg IVP

**PEDIATRIC DOSE**

1. **Seizure:** administer 0.3 mg/kg slow IVP, titrated to terminate seizure activity, not to exceed 10 mg. If unable to establish an IV, administer 0.3 mg/kg per rectum (PR) via a lubricated 3 ml syringe, titrated to terminate seizure activity, not to exceed 10 mg
2. **Pre-cardioversion:** administer 0.3 mg/kg slow IVP, not to exceed 10 mg

**Base physician order for IM administration may be considered for adult or pediatric patients**

**Onset:** 1-5 minutes, may be longer for PR dosing

**Duration:** 15 minutes to 1 hour