PACKAGE LEAFLET: INFORMATION FOR THE USER

Midazolam 5 mg/ml Solution for injection or infusion

Midazolam (as Midazolam Hydrocloride)

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine because it contains important infomraiton for you.
- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

In this leaflet:

1. What Midazolam is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before Midazolam is given
3. How Midazolam will be given
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Midazolam
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. WHAT MIDAZOLAM IS AND WHAT IT IS USED FOR

Midazolam belongs to a group of medicines known as benzodiazepines. It is a short-acting medicine that is used to induce sedation (a very relaxed state of calm, drowsiness or sleep) and relieves anxiety and muscle tension.

This medicine is used for:
· Conscious sedation (an awake but very relaxed state of calm or drowsiness during a medical test or procedure) in adults and children.
· Sedation of adults and children, in intensive care units.
· Anaesthesia in adults, used alone or with other medicines.
· Premedication (medicine used to cause relaxation, calm and drowsiness before an anaesthetic) in adults and children

2. WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE MIDAZOLAM IS GIVEN

You should not be given Midazolam if:
- you are allergic (hypersensitive) to Midazolam hydrochloride or any of the other ingredients in this medicine (listed in section 6).
- you are allergic to other benzodiazepine medicines, such as diazepam or nitrazepam.
- you have severe breathing problems and you are going to have Midazolam for conscious sedation.

You must not be given Midazolam if any of the above apply to you. If you are not sure, talk to your doctor or nurse before you are given this medicine.

Take special care with Midazolam

Children and babies
If your child is going to be given this medicine:
- It is particularly important to tell your doctor or nurse if your child has cardiovascular disease (heart problems). Your child will be carefully monitored and the dose will be adjusted specially.

- Children must be carefully monitored. For infants and babies under 6 months this will include monitoring of breathing and oxygen levels.

Adults
Before Midazolam is given, let your doctor or nurse know if:
- You are over 60 years of age.
- You have a long term illness (such as breathing problems or kidney, liver or heart problems).
- You are debilitated (have an illness that makes you feel very weak, run down and short of energy).
- You have myasthenia gravis (a neuromuscular disease causing muscle weakness).
- You regularly drink large amounts of alcohol or you have had problems with alcohol use in the past.
- You regularly take recreational drugs or you have had problems with drug use in the past.
- You are pregnant or think you may be pregnant (see 'Pregnancy and breast-feeding').

If any of the above apply to you, or if you are not sure, talk to your doctor or nurse before you are given Midazolam.

Other medicines and Midazolam
Tell your doctor if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines, including medicines obtained without a prescription and herbal medicines.

In particular, tell your doctor or nurse if you are taking any of the following medicines:
· tranquilisers (for anxiety or to help you sleep)
· hypnotics (medicines to make you sleep)
· sedatives (to make you feel calm or sleepy)
· antidepressants (medicines for depression)
· narcotic analgesics (very strong pain killers)
· antihistamines (used to treat allergies)
· medicines to treat fungal infections (ketoconazole, voriconazole, fluconazole, itraconazole, posaconazole)
· macrolide antibiotics (such as erythromycin or clarithromycin)
· diltiazem (used to treat high blood pressure)
· medicines for HIV called protease inhibitors (such as saquinavir ritonavir, indinavir, nelfinavir and amprenavir)
· atorvastatin (used to treat high cholesterol)
· medicines to treat high cholesterol, such as Atorvastatin
· medicines to treat mycobacteria infections such as tuberculosis (rifampicin)
· medicines taken to heal stomach ulcers such as cimetidine or rantidine
· alcohol or drugs containing alcohol
· the herbal medicine St. Johns Wort

If any of the above apply to you, or if you are not sure, talk to your doctor or nurse before you are given Mdiazolam.
Concomitant use of Midazolam and opioids (strong pain killers, medicines for substitution therapy and some cough medicines) increases the risk of drowsiness, difficulties in breathing (respiratory depression), coma and may be life-threatening. Because of this, concomitant use should only be considered when other treatment options are not possible.
However if your doctor does prescribe Midazolam Injection together with opioids the dose and duration of concomitant treatment should be limited by your doctor.
Please tell your doctor about all opioid medicines you are taking, and follow your doctor's dose recommendation closely. It could be helpful to inform friends or relatives to be aware of the signs and symptoms stated above. Contact your doctor when experiencing such symptoms.

Operations
If you are going to have an inhaled anaesthetic (one that you breathe in) for an operation or for dental treatment, it is important to tell your doctor or dentist that you have been given Midazolam.

Drinking alcohol

Do not drink alcohol if you have been given Midazolam. This is because alcohol can increase the sedative effect of Midazolam and may cause problems with your breathing.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask our doctor for advice before taking this medicine. Your doctor will decide if this medicine is suitable for you. Midazolam passes in low amounts into breast milk. Nursing mothers are advised to stop breast-feeding for 24 hours following administration of midazolam

Driving and using machinery

- Do not drive or use machinery until you are completely recovered. Your doctor should advise you when you can start these again.
- Midazolam may make you sleepy, forgetful or affect your concentration and co-ordination. This may affect your performance at skilled tasks such as driving or using machines.
- You should always be taken home by a responsible adult after your treatment.

Important information about some of the ingredients of Midazolam

Midazolam injection is essentially 'sodium free' as it contains less than 1mmol sodium (23mg) per ampoule

The maximum recommended daily dose of this medicinal product contains 703.29 mg sodium (found in table salt).
This is equivalent to 35.2% of the adult recommended maximum daily dietary intake for sodium.
Talk to your pharmacist or doctor if you need Midazolam Injection on a daily basis for a prolonged period of time, especially if you have been advised to have a low salt diet.

3. How Midazolam is given

Midazolam should be given only by experienced healthcare professionals (doctor or nurse). It should be given in a place (hospital, clinic or surgery) equipped to monitor and support the patient's breathing, heart and circulation (cardiovascular function) and recognise the signs of and manage the expected side effects of anaesthesia.

Normal adult dose

Your doctor will decide on a suitable dose for you. The dose you are given will depend on why you are being treated and the type of sedation needed. Your weight, age, your state of health, how you respond to Midazolam and whether other medicines are needed at the same time will also influence the dose that you are given.

If you need strong painkillers, you will be given these first and then be given Midazolam. The dose will be adjusted specially for you.

Midazolam may be given to you in one of four different ways:

- by slow injection into a vein (intravenous injection)
- through a tube into one of your veins (intravenous infusion)
- by injection into a muscle (intramuscular injection)
- into your back passage (rectum).

You should always be taken home by a responsible adult after your treatment.

Children and babies
- In infants and babies under 6 months of age Midazolam is only recommended for sedation in intensive care units. The dose will be given gradually into a vein.
- Children 12 years and under will usually be given Midazolam into a vein. When Midazolam is used for premedication (to cause relaxation, calm and drowsiness before an anaesthetic) it may be given into the back passage (rectum).

If you are given more Midazolam than you should
Your medicine will be given to you by a doctor or nurse. If you are accidentally given too much Hypnovel you may:
- Feel drowsy.
- Lose your co-ordination (ataxia) and reflexes.
- Have problems with your speech (dysarthria).
- Have involuntary eye movements (nystagmus).
- Develop low blood pressure (hypotension).
- Stop breathing (apnoea) and suffer cardiorespiratory depression (slowed or stopped breathing and heart beat) and coma.

If you stop taking Midazolam
During prolonged treatment with Midazolam, physical dependence may develop. Suddenly stopping the treatment may be accompanied by withdrawal symptoms. The following symptoms may occur: headaches, muscle pain, anxiety, tension, restlessness, confusion, irritability, rebound insomnia (unable to sleep), mood changes, hallucinations and convulsions. Since the risk of withdrawal symptoms is greater after suddenly stopping treatment, it is recommended to stop doses gradually.

If you have any further questions on the use of this product, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

4. POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

Like all medicines Midazolam can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Stop having Midazolam and see a doctor straight away if you notice any of the following side effects. They can be life-threatening and you may need urgent medical treatment:
- Anaphylactic shock (a life-threatening allergic reaction). Signs may include a sudden rash, itching or lumpy rash (hives) and swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body. You may also have shortness of breath, wheezing or trouble breathing.
- Heart attack (cardiac arrest). Signs may include chest pain which may spread to your neck and shoulders and down your left arm.
- Breathing problems or complications (sometimes causing the breathing to stop).
- Choking and sudden blockage of the airway (laryngospasm).

Life-threatening side effects are more likely to occur in adults over 60 years of age and those who already have breathing difficulties or heart problems, particularly if the injection is given too fast or at a high dose

Other possible side effects
Immune system problems:
- general allergic reactions (skin reactions, heart and blood system reactions, wheezing)

Effects on behaviour:
- agitation
- hyperactivity

- restlessness
- hostility, rage or aggression
- excitement.

Muscle problems:
- muscle spasms and muscle tremors (shaking of your muscles that you cannot control)
- ataxia (reduced control of limb movements).

Mental and Nervous system problems:
- confusion
- euphoria (an excessive feeling of happiness or excitement)
- hallucinations (seeing and possibly hearing things that are not really there)
- drowsiness and prolonged sedation
- reduced alertness
- headache
- dizziness
- difficulty co-ordinating muscles
- fits (convulsions) in premature infants and new-born babies
- temporary memory loss. How long this lasts depends on how much Midazolam you were given. You may experience this after your treatment. In isolated cases this has been prolonged (lasted for a long time)
- drug dependence, abuse.

Heart and circulation problems:
- low blood pressure
- slow heart rate
- chest pain or problems with your heart
- redness of the face and neck (flushing), fainting or headache
- heart failure.

Breathing problems:
- shortness of breath, breathing difficulties or stopping breathing
- coughing
- hiccup.

Stomach, gut and mouth problems:
- feeling sick or being sick
- constipation
- dry mouth.

Skin problems:
- rash
- hives (lumpy rash)
- itchiness.

Injection site problems:
- redness
- swelling of the skin
- blood clots or pain at the injection site.

Injury:

- Patients taking benzodiazepine medicines are at risk of falling and breaking bones. This risk is increased in the elderly and those taking other sedatives (including alcohol).

General:
- Tiredness (fatigue).

If any of the side effects become serious or troublesome, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor or nurse.

Reporting of side effects
If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via HPRA Pharmacovigilance, Earlsfort Terrace, IRL - Dublin 2; Tel: +353 1 6764971; Fax: +353 1 6762517. Website: www.hpra.ie; E-mail: medsafety@hpra.ie. By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5. HOW TO STORE MIDAZOLAM

Your doctor or pharmacist is responsible for storing Midazolam injection. They are also responsible for disposing of any unused Midazolam. You should not be given Midazolam injection after the expiry date which is stated on the carton and ampoule. The expiry date refers to the last date of the month

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.
This medicinal product does not require any special temperature storage conditions
Keep the container in the outer carton in order to protect from light.
Your doctor or nurse should not use this product if the solution is discoloured.

6. CONTENTS OF THE PACK AND OTHER INFORMATION

What Midazolam contains
The active ingredient is Midazolam (as hydrochloride)

Each 2ml of solution for injection or infusion contains 10mg midazolam (as the hydrochloride).

Each 3ml of solution for injection or infusion contains 15mg midazolam (as the hydrochloride).

The other ingredients are water for injections, hydrochloric acid,
sodium chloride and sodium hydroxide

Each ml of solution for injection contains 5mg Midazolam (as the hydrochloride).

What Midazolam looks like and contents of the pack:
Midazolam solution for injection is a clear colourless solution, filled in clear glass ampoules

The medicine is supplied to your pharmacist or doctor in packs of 10 clear glass ampoules. (2ml and 3ml)

Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer:
Martindale Pharmaceuticals,
Bampton Road,
Harold Hill,
Romford,
RM3 8UG,
United Kingdom.

Product Licence Number (s):
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