Hillsborough County Fire Rescue STANDING ORDERS AND PROTOCOL

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Subject: DIAZEPAM (VALIUM®)

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Diazepam

1. CLASSIFICATION

- a. Benzodiazepine
- b. Sedative hypnotic
- c. Anticonvulsant

2. ACTIONS / DESCRIPTIONS

- a. Possess anticonvulsant, hypnotic, sedative, skeletal muscle relaxant, and amnesic properties
- b. Potentiates the effects of inhibitory neurotransmitters
- Raises the seizure threshold in the motor cortex

3. Indications

a. Seizures

4. CONTRAINDICATIONS

- a. Coma
- b. Shock
- c. CNS depression 2° to head trauma

5. PRECAUTIONS

a. Use cautiously in elderly, debilitated, and pregnancy

6. Adverse Reactions

- a. Use in combination with alcohol may cause a synergistic enhancement of the hypotension properties of both substances
- b. Respiratory depression
- c. Tachycardia
- d. Confusion
- e. Phlebitis
- f. Rapid IV administration may be followed by respiratory depression and excessive sedation