


Section: Drug Reference
Subject: MIDAZOLAM (VERSED®)
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Midazolam

1. CLASSIFICATION
 - a. Benzodiazepine Sedative/Hypnotic
2. ACTIONS / DESCRIPTIONS
 - a. Short acting benzodiazepine
 - b. CNS depressant with sedative, muscle relaxant, anticonvulsant, and amnesiac effects
 - c. Estimated to be 3 – 4 times as potent as diazepam
 - d. Intensifies inhibitory neurotransmitter of the brain. Acts to calm the patient, relaxes skeletal muscle, blocks memory, prevents feeling pain, but enables them to follow commands
3. INDICATIONS
 - a. Cardioversion
 - b. Behavioral emergencies
 - c. Transcutaneous pacing
 - d. RSI
 - e. Seizures
4. CONTRAINDICATIONS
 - a. Acute narrow-angle glaucoma
 - b. Shock
 - c. Coma
 - d. Acute alcohol intoxication
5. PRECAUTIONS
 - a. Should be used with CAUTION in patients with COPD and CHF.
6. ADVERSE REACTIONS
 - a. CNS: amnesia, headache, euphoria, confusion, agitation, anxiety, delirium, muscle tremor, & slurred speech
 - b. Cardiovascular: hypotension, PVCs, tachycardia, & vasovagal episode
 - c. Respiratory: coughing, bronchospasm, laryngospasm, apnea, hypoventilation, respiratory arrest, wheezing, and tachypnea
 - d. Alcohol and Narcotics: CNS and circulatory depressant effects will be potentiated
 - e. Grapefruit juice may prevent metabolism of drug resulting in increased potency
7. DRUG ACTION TIME
 - a. Onset: 1.5 – 5 minutes
 - b. Duration: 2 – 6 hours
8. INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION POINTS
 - a. Respiratory arrest with high doses or rapid push
 - b. Effects reversed with flumazenil.