

## Who can administer

**Status epilepticus:** may be administered by registered competent doctor or nurse/midwife.

**Other indications:** Restricted administration: [see appendix 1](#)

## Important information

- See [GUH guideline](#) Treatment Algorithm for Management of Adults with Convulsive Status Epilepticus in GUH, March 2023

## Available preparations

Ativan 4mg per 1mL ampoule (currently in short supply)

Lorazepam 4mg per 1mL ampoule (Macure)

## Reconstitution

Already in solution

- **Draw up using a 5 micron filter needle**
- **Dilute further prior to administration**

## Methods of intravenous administration

### Slow intravenous injection

- Dilute with an equal volume of either Sodium chloride 0.9% or Water for Injections immediately before administration (example add 1mL injection solution to 1mL diluent)
  - Swirl syringe to mix - do not shake vigorously as air bubbles will form
- Inject into a **large vein** at a rate no faster than 2mg/minute, except in the control of status epilepticus where rapid injection is required <sup>(ref 1)</sup>

### Infusion

- Not recommended, see further information.

## Dose in adults

### Premedication

- Administer 44 micrograms/kg (0.044mg/kg) (to a maximum dose of 2mg) given 15 to 20 minutes before procedure
- Patients aged 50 years or less- may give 50 micrograms/kg (0.05mg/kg) (to a maximum dose of 4mg)

### Convulsive status epilepticus

- Administer 4mg
- Wait 5 minutes to assess its effect before deciding whether additional doses are necessary <sup>(ref 2)</sup>

- **Elderly and debilitated patients** may respond to lower doses

### Acute anxiety

- Initial dose: 2 to 4mg (0.05mg/kg)
- If necessary, the dose may be repeated after two hours

### Elderly and debilitated patients

- May respond to lower doses - half dose may be sufficient

### Renal and hepatic impairment

- Contraindicated in severe hepatic impairment
- Start with **small** doses in severe **renal** impairment - not more than 2mg is recommended
- Monitor frequently and adjust dose carefully according to patient response in **hepatic impairment**

## Further information

- Administration by infusion is an unlicensed method of administration and is **NOT** recommended at GUH, as precipitation has been reported, **particularly with the 4mg per 1mL formulation.**

## Storage

- Store between 2 to 8°C

## References

SPC Lorazepam (Macure) 23rd May 2024

1: Injectable Medicines Guide Medusa, downloaded 15/04/2025

2: Treatment Algorithm for Management of Adults with Convulsive Status Epilepticus in GUH, March 2023

## Therapeutic classification

Benzodiazepine