

Giving Ativan when your child has prolonged seizures.



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The medication called Ativan is also known as Lorazepam.

Why is this medication given?

It is given to treat seizures that last longer than five minutes or come in clusters.

The right dose for your child is:

_____ tablet(s) of _____ mg(s)

The right time to give this medication is:

- When your child has a seizure that lasts longer than five minutes.
- When your child has _____ or more seizures in _____ minutes.

The right way to give this medication is:

- Check the expiry date on the Ativan tablets. If the date on the vial has passed the medicine is too old and has expired. **Do not give it and call 911.**
- Place the tablet between your child's cheek and gums. Hold the tablet in the cheek for about 20 seconds, until it dissolves.
- Watch your child's breathing and skin colour for 20 minutes after giving the medication. If your child's skin turns grey or bluish, call 911. Be prepared to give mouth-to-mouth resuscitation if the child stops breathing.

If the seizure does not stop:

- Call 911. Tell the paramedic how much Ativan you gave and the time you gave it.
- Stay with your child and keep her or him safe.
- Talk calmly to your child to reassure her or him.

Helpful hints:

- Store all supplies, including Ativan and this instruction sheet, together in a small bag.
- Carry your Ativan kit with you at all times. Seizures can happen any where and at any time.
- Only people trained by a qualified health professional should give your child Ativan. You can ask the clinic nurse or your family doctor to train other people who care for your child.
- Review these instructions and the expiry date on the Ativan every 3-4 months. Some families find it helpful to mark the review dates on their calendar.



If you have any questions call your clinic nurse or family doctor:

B.C.'s Children's Hospital Neurology
Department 604-875-2121

It's good to ask!

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