



Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2021/010

Midazolam 10mg/2ml solution for injection ampoules

Tier 2 – medium impact*

Date of issue: 08/02/2021

Summary

- There are limited stocks of midazolam 10mg/2ml solution for injection ampoules available until April 2021.
- To conserve stock for paediatric intensive care and palliative care, Adult Critical Care units should use the following presentations for continuous infusion (where possible): (flumazenil should be readily available in these areas in case reversal is urgently required):
 - midazolam 50mg/10ml solution for injection ampoules
 - midazolam 100mg/50ml solution for infusion vials
 - midazolam 50mg/50ml solution for infusion vials

Actions Required

Secondary care pharmacy procurement teams, working with their Medication Safety Officer (MSO) and relevant clinical areas, should:

- assess local stock holding of midazolam 10mg/2ml solution for injection ampoules and only order further stock if there is insufficient available for use in palliative care or Paediatric Intensive Care;
- ensure that midazolam 10mg/2ml solution for injection ampoules are only being prescribed for palliative care patients and Paediatric Intensive Care Units; and
- work with Adult Critical Care Unit clinical leads to ensure larger volume presentations (midazolam 50mg/10ml solution for injection ampoules, 100mg/50ml solution for infusion vials and 50mg/50ml solution for infusion vials) are used for patients requiring continuous infusion.

Primary care should:

- continue to order midazolam 10mg/2ml solution for injection ampoules in line with current demand for palliative care and are advised not to over order during this time
- when prescribing midazolam 10mg/2ml as an anticipatory medication, review the amount required in order to balance timely access with the impact of increased demand on the medicines supply chain in light of the limited stock.

Supporting information

Midazolam is a high-risk medicine that has been associated with the risk of overdose and has an associated Never Event (see below). The Medication Safety Officer should lead the risk management and patient safety implications of this supply issue.

*Classification of Tiers can be found at the following link:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/a-guide-to-managing-medicines-supply-and-shortages/>

Clinical Information

- [NHS Never Event: Mis-selection of high-strength midazolam during conscious sedation \(January 2018\).](#)
- [Midazolam 10mg/2ml solution for injection ampoules](#)
- [Midazolam 50mg/50ml solution for infusion vials](#)
- [Midazolam 50mg/10ml solution for injection ampoules](#)
- [Midazolam 100mg/50ml solution for infusion vials](#)

Enquiries

If you have any queries, please contact DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk.