# Midazolam

MEDICATION

## THE DRUG

Class: Benzodiazepine / CNS depressant; sedative; amnestic

How it works: Binds the GABA-A receptor and enhances the effects of GABA, increasing inhibitory neurotransmission and reducing neuronal excitability

## USE IT FOR

- Pre-medication to cardioversion/pacing
- Endotracheal tube tolerance
- Acute anxiety states
- Rapid sequence intubation
- Seizures

## DON'T GIVE / CAUTION

- Contraindications: hypersensitivity
- Shock (hypotension) (per page)
- Pregnancy (per page)
- Can cause hypoventilation, respiratory depression, respiratory arrest
- Caution: COPD; acute alcohol intoxication
- Caution: patients using narcotics or barbiturates; elderly and neonates
- Monitor BP, EtCO2, ECG

## DOSE

**Adult:** 2-5 mg IV/IO/IM/IN

**Peds:** [ dose not stated in original text ]

**Repeat:** [ dose not stated in original text ]

## WATCH FOR

- Respiratory depression
- Laryngospasm
- Hypotension

## PEARLS

- Onset 1-3 min; peak 10 min; half-life 20 min (per page)

**Take Home Message:**

Midazolam sedates for cardioversion, pacing, RSI, and seizures — 2-5 mg, with respiratory depression the standing risk.