



**GENERIC NAME: LORAZEPAM**

**Brand Name**

**CLASS:** Antianxiety Benzodiazepine, short or intermediate acting

**Mechanism of Action:**

Agent binds highly to the gamma-amino butyric acid (GABA) benzodiazepine receptor complex without displacing GABA, (GABA is the major inhibitory neurotransmitter in the brain). It exerts tranquilizing action on the central nervous system.

**Indications and Field Use:**

Status epilepticus Seizure Agitation

**Contraindications:**

- Known sensitivity to the benzodiazepines
- Acute narrow angle glaucoma or myasthenia gravis
- Known hypersensitivity to polyethylene glycol, propylene glycol, or benzyl alcohol

- Pregnancy Adverse Reactions:
- Most frequent adverse reaction is sedation
- Transient amnesia or memory impairment
- Confusion
- Hypotension
- Respiratory depression
- Dizziness
- Headache **NOTES ON ADMINISTRATION**  
 Incompatibilities/Drug Interactions: Concomitant use of CNS sedatives such as phenothiazines, narcotic analgesics, barbiturates, antidepressants, and alcohol should be assessed prior to administration of IV Lorazepam.

## **Administration:**

IM: Should be administered deep into the muscle mass IV/IO: Do not exceed 2mg/minute or 0.05mg/kg over 2-5 minutes. Dilute IV dose with equal volume of compatible diluent (D5W, NS, SWI).

\*\*Inadvertent intra-arterial injection may produce arteriospasm resulting in necrosis and potential amputation.

## **Adult Dosage:**

Status epilepticus: 2mg to 4mg IV given slowly (over 2-5 minutes) May repeat dose in 10-15 minutes if needed (maximum 8mg). May give IM/IO if no IV access.

## **Pediatric Dosage:**

Status epilepticus: 0.05-0.1 mg/kg IV over 2-5 minutes (maximum 4mg). May repeat in 10-15 minutes.

## **Routes of Administration:**

IV injection is the route of choice IM injection with large bore needle IO

## **Onset of Action:**

1-2 minutes if given IV

## **Peak Effects:**

Less than 15 minutes when given IV Within 3 hours when given IM

## **Duration of Action:**

Approximately 6 - 8 hours

## **Dosage Forms/Packaging:**

Optional [8 mg] Injection Solution: 2mg/mL, 4mg/mL

## **Special Notes:**

Care must be used when administering Lorazepam IV to elderly patients, seriously ill patients, and those with limited pulmonary reserve. Apnea and/or cardiac arrest may occur. Patients over the age of 50 years may have a more profound and prolonged sedation with IV Lorazepam. All patients should be monitored for respiratory depression and hypotensive effects. Stability above room temperature has not been established.