

<p><b>PRESENTATION</b></p> <p>Ampoule containing 10 milligrams diazepam in an oil-in-water emulsion making up 2ml of milky white fluid (Diazemuls).</p> <p>Rectal tube containing 2.5 milligrams, 5 milligrams or 10 milligrams diazepam (Stesolid).</p>	<p><b>INDICATIONS</b></p> <p>Fits longer than 5 minutes and <b>STILL FITTING</b>.</p> <p>Repeated fits – not secondary to an uncorrected hypoxia or hypoglycaemic episode.</p> <p>Status epilepticus.</p> <p>Eclamptic fits (initiate treatment if fit lasts &gt;2-3 minutes or if it is recurrent).</p> <p>Symptomatic cocaine toxicity (severe hypertension, chest pain or fitting).</p>
<p><b>ACTIONS</b></p> <p>Central nervous system depressant, acts as an anti-convulsant and sedative.</p>	<p><b>CAUTIONS</b></p> <p>Respiratory depression.</p> <p>Should be used with caution if alcohol, anti-depressants or other CNS depressants have been taken as side effects are more likely.</p> <p>Recent doses by carers/relatives should be taken into account when calculating the maximum cumulative dose.</p>
<p><b>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b></p> <p>The intravenous route is preferred for terminating fits and thus, where IV access can be gained rapidly, Diazemuls should be the first choice. Early consideration should be given to using Stesolid when IV access cannot be rapidly and safely obtained, <b>which is particularly likely in the case of children</b>. In small children Stesolid should be considered the first choice treatment and IV access sought subsequently.</p> <p>The earlier the drug is given the more likely the patient is to respond, which is why the rectal route is preferred in children, while the IV route is sought.</p> <p>Diazepam should only be used if the patient has been fitting for &gt;5 minutes (and is still fitting), or if fits recur in rapid succession without time for full recovery in between. There is no value in giving this drug “preventatively” if the fit has ceased. <b>In any clearly sick or ill child, there must be no delay at the scene</b> while administering the drug, and if it is essential to give diazepam, this should be done en route to hospital.</p> <p>Care must be taken when inserting the rectal tube and this should be inserted no more than 2.5cm in children and 4-5cm in adults. (All tubes have an insertion marker on nozzle).</p>	<p><b>SIDE EFFECTS</b></p> <p>Respiratory depression may occur, especially in the presence of alcohol, which enhances the depressive side effect of diazepam. In addition, opioid drugs also enhance the cardiac and respiratory depressive effect of diazepam.</p> <p>Hypotension may occur. This may be significant if the patient has to be moved from a horizontal position to allow for extrication from an address. Caution should therefore be exercised and consideration given to either removing the patient flat or, if fitting has stopped and it is considered safe, allowing a 10 minute recovery period prior to removal.</p> <p>Drowsiness and light-headedness, confusion and unsteadiness.</p> <p>Occasionally amnesia may occur.</p>

## DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Route: IV or IO < 7 years

**Concentration – 10 milligrams in 2ml**

AGE	DOSE	VOLUME
Adult	10 milligrams	<b>2.0ml</b>
11 years	10 milligrams	<b>2.0ml</b>
10 years	9.5 milligrams	<b>1.9ml</b>
9 years	8.5 milligrams	<b>1.7ml</b>
8 years	8 milligrams	<b>1.6ml</b>
7 years	7 milligrams	<b>1.4ml</b>
6 years	6.5 milligrams	<b>1.3ml</b>
5 years	5.5 milligrams	<b>1.1ml</b>
4 years	4.9 milligrams	<b>0.98ml</b>
3 years	4.3 milligrams	<b>0.86ml</b>
2 years	3.65 milligrams	<b>0.73ml</b>
18 months	3.3 milligrams	<b>0.66ml</b>
12 months	2.95 milligrams	<b>0.59ml</b>
9 months	2.65 milligrams	<b>0.53ml</b>
6 months	2.3 milligrams	<b>0.46ml</b>
3 months	1.8 milligrams	<b>0.36ml</b>
1 month	1.3 milligrams	<b>0.26ml</b>
Birth	1.05 milligrams	<b>0.21ml</b>

**ADULT** – Administer **SLOWLY** – titrated to response. Repeat after 5 minutes 20 milligrams maximum dose.

**CHILDREN** – Administer **SLOWLY** – titrated to response **ONCE** only.

Route: Rectal

AGE	DOSE	CONCENTRATION	RECTAL TUBES
Adult	10 milligrams	10 milligrams in 2.5ml	<b>1 x 10mg Tube</b>
Child 6-12 years	10 milligrams	10 milligrams in 2.5ml	<b>1 x 10mg Tube</b>
Child 1-<6 years	5 milligrams	5 milligrams in 2.5ml	<b>1 x 5mg Tube</b>
Child <1 year	2.5 milligrams	2.5 milligrams in 1.25ml	<b>1 x 2.5mg Tube</b>

**ADULT** – If required repeat after 10 minutes – maximum dose 20 milligrams.

**CHILDREN** – If required repeat **ONCE** after 10 minutes.

**N.B.** If a **SINGLE** dose of diazepam has been given by the PR route and IV access is subsequently available a **SINGLE** dose of IV Diazepam may be given in place of the repeat PR dose where required.