

Diastat (diazepam rectal gel)

What is Diastat (diazepam rectal gel)?

Diastat (diazepam rectal gel) is an emergency medicine used to stop seizures. It is also called a seizure rescue medicine.

Diastat is given into the rectum. The rectum is the opening in the body where stool (bowel movement) is passed.

When does my child need it?

Use the medicine only as advised by your child's doctor. Your child may need it for:

- Seizures lasting 5 minutes or longer.
- Seizure clusters. This is when someone has 3 or more seizures in 1 hour.

It should NOT be used as a maintenance medicine to prevent seizures.

What dose does my child need?

- The doctor will prescribe the medicine strength that is best for your child based on their age and weight.
- Sometimes 1 dose is not enough. **Only give a second dose if a doctor tells you to.**

How do I prepare and give the dose?

1. Gather your supplies:
 - Diazepam rectal gel prefilled syringe
 - Lubricating jelly packet



2. Remove cap from syringe.



3. Cover syringe tip with lubricating jelly.

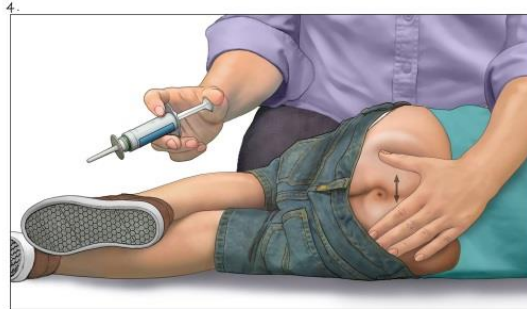
In case of an urgent concern or emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency department right away.

Diastat (diazepam rectal gel), continued

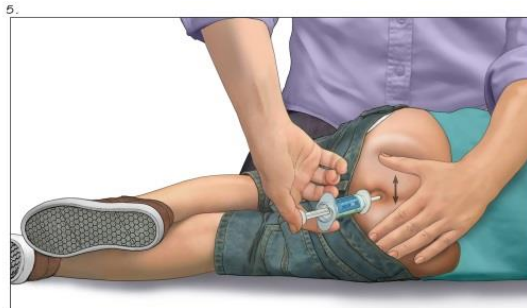
4. Place your child somewhere they cannot fall.
 - Turn them on their side facing you.
 - Bend their upper leg forward.



5. Separate buttocks to see the rectum.



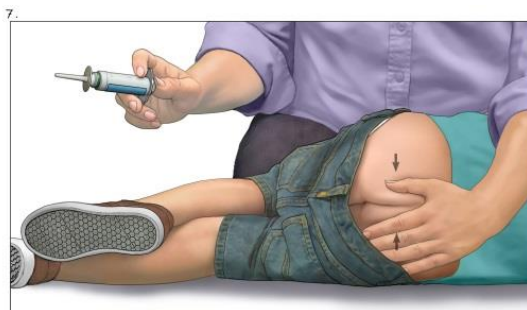
6. Gently put lubricated syringe tip into rectum.
 - The rim of the syringe should be snug against rectal opening.



7. Slowly count to 3 while gently pushing the plunger until it stops.



8. Slowly count to 3 before removing the syringe.



9. Slowly count to 3 while holding buttocks together to prevent the medicine from leaking.

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10. Keep your child on their side facing you.

11. Watch your child closely and help them as needed.

12. Write down what time you gave the medicine.



What should I expect after giving it?

Talk with your child's doctor about:

- When to expect the seizure or seizure clusters to stop.
- What to do if seizures do not stop within 5 to 10 minutes of giving Diastat. Your doctor may tell you to give a second dose.

If seizures stop after the first dose:

- Keep your child on their side and watch them closely.
- Get medical care right away.

What are some possible side effects?

Your child may have 1 or more of these:

- Feel sleepy
- Feel dizzy
- Headache
- Diarrhea (loose or liquid stool)
- Feel shaky
- Feel unsteady, tremble or have other problems with muscle control or coordination

When should I call the doctor?

Call the doctor if you have questions or concerns about how your child looks or feels.

When should I call 911?

Call 911 **right away** if:

- Shallow or slowed breathing, or if breathing stops.
- Extreme sleepiness.
- A blue or dark purple color to the nails, lips or gums.
- Seizure clusters that are different than other seizure clusters your child has had.

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- Seizures that worry you. You may have concerns about how often the seizures happen, how severe the seizure is, or how long the seizure lasts.

Also call if you have to give a second dose of Diastat.

Where do I get the medicine?

Your child's doctor will give you a prescription. Talk with the nurse or doctor about what pharmacies have this medicine.

How do I store the medicine?

After you pick up the medicine from the store:

- Remove the syringe from the case.
- Make sure you can see the green "READY" band.
- Put the syringe back in the case.
- Store the medicine at room temperature (59°F to 86°F).

This teaching sheet contains general information only. Talk with your child's doctor or a member of your child's healthcare team about specific care of your child.

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