# Valtoco (diazepam nasal spray)



## What is Valtoco (diazepam nasal spray)?

Valtoco (diazepam nasal spray) is an emergency medicine used to stop seizures. It is also called a seizure rescue medicine.

## 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 in milligrams (mg) that is best for your child based on their age and weight. Ask the doctor or pharmacist to circle the dose on page 1 or 3 so you know which instructions to use.

- Two doses of medicine will come in 1 box.
- 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?

## 5 mg and 10 mg doses

- 1. If your child has a seizure, gently help them to the floor and turn them on their side. Move any objects or furniture that could cause harm.
- 2. Only remove 1 package from the box.



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

3. Remove the medicine device from the package.



- 4. Hold the device with your:
  - Thumb on the bottom of the plunger.
  - First and middle fingers on either side of the nozzle.

Do not squirt (prime) the medicine before giving it. If you do, there will not be any medicine left to give.

5. Put the tip of the nozzle into 1 nostril until the finger holding the device is against the bottom of your child's nose. The entire nozzle does not need to be inside the nose.



6. Firmly push the plunger with your thumb. Then remove the nozzle from the nostril.



- 7. Keep or turn your child on their side. Watch them closely and help them as needed.
- 8. Write down what time you gave the medicine.
- 9. Throw away the device. You gave the full dose.

#### Giving 15 mg and 20 mg doses

- 1. If your child has a seizure, gently help them to the floor and turn them on their side. Move any objects or furniture that could cause harm.
- 2. Only remove 1 package from the box.



- 3. Remove 1 medicine device from the package. One package should have 2 devices. This is 1 full dose when both devices in the package are given.
- 4. Hold the device with your:
  - Thumb on the bottom of the plunger.
  - First and middle fingers on either side of the nozzle.

Do not squirt (prime) the medicine before giving it. If you do, there will not be any medicine left to give.

5. Put the tip of the nozzle into 1 nostril until the finger holding the device is against the bottom of your child's nose. The entire nozzle does not need to be inside the nose.



6. Firmly push the plunger with your thumb. Then remove from the nozzle from the nostril.



7. You <u>have not</u> given the full dose yet. Use the second device to give medicine into the other nostril. **Do not wait to use the second device.** 



- 8. Keep or turn your child on their side. Watch them closely and help them as needed.
- 9. Write down what time you gave the medicine.
- 10. Throw away both devices. You gave the full dose.

# 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 they do not stop. They 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 or lightheaded
- Headache

- Nasal discomfort.
- Bitter taste in the mouth

Valtoco may cause thoughts of suicide in a very small number of people. Call the doctor <u>right away</u> if your child has:

- Changes in behavior or mood.
- Agitation.
- Insomnia (cannot fall asleep or stay asleep).
- Anxiety or irritability that is new or gets worse.

Also 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 your child has:

- 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.
- 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 Valtoco.

#### What else do I need to know?

- Keep all medicines where children and pets cannot get to them.
- Make sure the medicine does not expire and the package does not get damaged.
- Do not remove the medicine from its package until you are ready to give it.

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.