



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive



CLINICAL DIRECTIVE 02/2012
FROM: Medical Director
TO: Advanced Paramedics
SUBJECT: Medications for seizure termination The preferred drug for seizure termination is midazolam, either intravenously, intranasally or buccally. Diazepam should not be used.
RATIONALE: Midazolam has both a faster onset and a shorter half life-the latter means that repeated doses of midazolam, either prehospital or in-hospital, have a lower incidence of respiratory depression than diazepam. Diazepam is lipid soluble and can build up within lipid tissue with repeated doses.
EFFECTIVE FROM: 25/02/2012
EFFECTIVE TO: Indefinitely
QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ON THIS DIRECTIVE: Education and Competency Assurance Officer

Clinical Directives are formulated by the National Ambulance Service Medical Directorate, the National Ambulance Service Education and Competency Assurance Team, the Dublin Fire Brigade Medical Director, the Dublin Fire Brigade EMS Support Team and the Irish Coast Guard Chief Crewman (Standards). Clinical Directives apply to all relevant staff in the HSE National Ambulance Service, Dublin Fire Brigade and Irish Coast Guard helicopter winch-crew.

Seirbhís Náisiúnta Otharchair
Teach Dara, Ascaill an Crann Teile, Páirc na Mílaoise, Nás na Rí, Co. Chill Dara

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