

Information for patients and carers

# Buccolam<sup>®</sup> Midazolam oromucosal liquid

Patient name: \_\_\_\_\_

Discussed with (healthcare professional) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Midazolam is a fast-acting sedative. It is used for a number of purposes including help with muscle spasms, and also in the control and prevention of fits. Buccolam<sup>®</sup> is the form of midazolam when it is given by mouth. Buccolam<sup>®</sup> can be an easy and effective way to give relief of distressing symptoms at home, but it must be used in the situation(s) recommended in this leaflet.

We have written this information as we may be recommending this medicine to be used for a condition it was not originally designed for; so you may find that there are some differences between the hospital's and the manufacturer's information.

Your doctor or Macmillan nurse has suggested that Buccolam<sup>®</sup> might help in the following situation(s):

## Dose:

Give:.....mg of Buccolam<sup>®</sup>. This is all of a.....coloured Buccolam<sup>®</sup> syringe.





The medicine will cause drowsiness and the effects may last for up to 1 to 2 hours. Your doctor or nurse will advise you if the dose can be repeated.

## How should Buccolam® be taken?

**It is important that you have a relative or carer who is aware of the situation(s) where Buccolam® may be used. They should be aware of where you keep your supply of medication and be familiar with the administration procedure below in case of emergency. Buccolam® should NEVER be injected with a needle.**

It is essential for you to read the patient information leaflet supplied in the pack.

You should also read the instructions on the pharmacy label on the side of the box of Buccolam®. This will tell you how much to take.

## Administration in an emergency

Check the dose and expiry date of the pre-filled syringe provided.

**Buccolam® should be given by the oromucosal (buccal) route. The buccal cavity is the space between the gum and cheek.**

1. Remove the syringe from its protective plastic tube. Remove the syringe cap before use to avoid risk of choking.
2. **Do not attach a needle to the syringe. Buccolam® must NEVER be injected.**
3. The full amount of solution should be squeezed slowly into the space between the gum and the cheek (as shown below).
4. Give approximately half the dose slowly into one side of the mouth, then give the remainder slowly into the other side.
5. The dose must not be administered below the tongue since the teeth may clamp shut and break the syringe in the mouth.
6. In some situations, it may be possible to administer a second dose of Buccolam® if symptoms persist after the first dose. The pharmacy label will state whether a further dose is permitted, and your medical team should advise before discharge.
7. Remain lying down for at least an hour after administration.
8. Dispose of the syringe safely.



## Are there any side-effects from taking midazolam?

Please read the manufacturer's patient information leaflet for a full list of side effects. If you are concerned about any side effects please talk to your doctor, nurse or pharmacist.

## Can I take Buccolam® with my other medicines?

Before you are discharged from hospital, your medicines will be reviewed by your doctor and pharmacy team. If you are prescribed any new medicines, tell your doctor that you have a supply of Buccolam®. Further information is available in the manufacturer's patient information leaflet which is supplied with the medication.

## Other warnings

- Keep out of the reach of children.
- Keep the syringe in the protective plastic tube until use.
- Store at room temperature only.
- Your GP can issue further supplies of Buccolam® if needed. Don't leave it too late to request a prescription. It is important that you have access to a supply at all times

### Additional information:

## Where to get more help and advice:

Your GP or Macmillan nurse

The St Ann's Hospice advice line is open 24 hours and can give advice to patients and their carers who live in Stockport, Manchester, Salford, Trafford and Heald Green (Stockport area: **0800 970 7970**; Little Hulton **0808 144 2860**)

## Useful contacts at The Christie

Supportive care team secretary **0161 446 3559**

The Christie pharmacy: **0161 446 3432 or 0161 446 3433**

During the evening or at weekends and Bank Holidays, if you have any queries, contact The Christie Hotline on **0161 446 3658** (Available 24 hours).

If you need information in a different format, such as easy read, large print, BSL, braille, email, SMS text or other communication support, please tell your ward or clinic nurse.

We try to ensure that all our information given to patients is accurate, balanced and based on the most up-to-date scientific evidence. If you would like to have details about the sources used please contact [patient.information@christie.nhs.uk](mailto:patient.information@christie.nhs.uk)

For information and advice visit the cancer information centres at Withington, Oldham or Salford. Opening times can vary, please check before making a special journey.

Contact The Christie Hotline for  
urgent support and specialist advice  
**The Christie Hotline: 0161 446 3658**  
Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

