BLMK Area Prescribing Committee Buccal Midazolam Prescribing Guidance

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Aim: To inform healthcare professionals of the recommended buccal midazolam product to prescribe for use in prolonged seizures.

Prescribing:

- Buccolam® has been licensed for use in prolonged seizures in children since 2011. Its license was extended in October 2024 to include treatment of prolonged seizures in adults (NB: caution in elderly patients).
- It contains the hydrochloride salt (10mg in 2ml) and is available in pre-filled syringes in four fixed doses of 2.5mg, 5mg, 7.5mg and 10mg.
- Buccolam is the preferred buccal midazolam product on the BLMK formularies and should be prescribed for all new patients (children and adults). Alternative products often contain midazolam 10mg/ml whilst Buccolam is 10mg/2ml therefore brand prescribing is important to ensure continuity and prevent selection errors. See the Buccolam dosage recommendation below.

Dose	Age	Colour of packaging
2.5mg (in 0.5ml)	3 months to 11 months*	Yellow
5mg (in 1ml)	1 year to 4 years	Blue
7.5mg (in 1.5ml)	5 years to 9 years	Purple
10mg (in 2ml)	10 years and over	Orange

* Use in infants aged 3-6 months should be limited for use only under the supervision of a health care professional where resuscitation equipment is available.

- Consider a switch to Buccolam®, for any patients currently prescribed Epistatus® pre-filled syringes, taking into account all implications of the change, including updating of any emergency seizure plans. Any switch would be on a case-by-case basis with careful review of the current dose and appropriate support on the use of Buccolam® pre-filled syringes.
- For all patients, an emergency seizure plan should be completed when initiating or reviewing the medication.
- Prescribe by the brand name (Buccolam®) to minimise the risk of selection errors
- State dose in milligrams (mg) AND volume in millilitres (ml).

Counselling:

Counselling should include:

- How to administer
- Epistatus is twice the strength (10mg/mL) versus Buccolam (10mg/2mL)
- Buccolam® syringes are pre-filled and designed for once only use. The total contents of the syringe should be given
- Advise the patient/carer to check that they always receive the same brand and strength of preparation. Different strengths of Buccolam® have different coloured packaging this can help the patient /carer check they have right product.

Patients and / or carers should be given a copy of 'How to administer Buccolam®' (see patient information leaflet) before they receive the product for the first time. Prescribers and / or carers should ensure that everybody who may need to administer Buccolam® (e.g., school nurses, carers, day centres) are aware of how to administer it.

Midazolam Oromucosal solution: Mechanism to switch to Buccolam® for children

This is the recommended mechanism, for reviewing and switching, to convert patients who are children to the preferred licenced Buccolam® Oromucosal solution from other preparations.

The mechanism is intended to keep parents/carers informed as well as School Nurses and School Staff so they can support parents/carers in the change processes and minimise risk of errors that may increase clinical risk of seizures.

Notes:

- Midazolam Oromucosal solution preparations are legally classified as a Schedule 3 Controlled Drug (CD No Register Exempt Safe Custody)
- Preparations available are all 5mg in 1mL:
  - Buccolam 2.5mg/0.5ml Oromucosal solution pre-filled oral syringes
  - Buccolam 5mg/1ml Oromucosal solution pre-filled oral syringes
  - Buccolam 7.5mg/1.5ml Oromucosal solution pre-filled oral syringes
  - Buccolam 10mg/2ml Oromucosal solution pre-filled oral syringes