

SBAR – Injectable Lorazepam Shortage

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Approvals	
S	Situation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a nationwide shortage of injectable lorazepam 2mg/mL 1-mL vials due to increased demand and manufacturer delays. Other injectable benzodiazepines are becoming harder to purchase as providers move to alternative agents.
B	Background <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lorazepam injection is labeled for treatment of status epilepticus and as a premedication for the relief of anxiety in patients undergoing surgical procedures. Off-label uses of lorazepam injection include sedation in the critical care setting for patients on mechanical ventilation, treatment of acute delirium, and adjunctive treatment of chemotherapy induced nausea and vomiting. Lorazepam 2 mg/ml 1-ml vials are expected to be released in mid-July to August.
A	Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oral lorazepam is an appropriate alternative in stable situations. Alternative agents, like diazepam, midazolam, or phenobarbital, should be considered when lorazepam is unavailable. AES and NCC guidelines support IV diazepam or IM midazolam as alternatives to IV lorazepam for status epilepticus.
R	Recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reserve IV lorazepam for the treatment of adult and pediatric patients with seizures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diazepam IV or midazolam IM may be considered if supply is depleted. Recommend use of oral lorazepam instead of IM/IV whenever possible. For treatment of alcohol withdrawal, consider diazepam IV/PO or phenobarbital IV/PO for patients without contraindications to these agents. We will continue to monitor the supply chain and provide updates as they are available.
Reviewer	
Review Date	
Comments	

INFORMATION FOR TEXT APP

Situation

- There is a nationwide shortage of injectable lorazepam 2mg/mL 1-mL vials.

Recommendations

- Reserve IV lorazepam for the treatment of patients with seizures.
- Use of oral lorazepam instead of IM/IV whenever possible.
- For treatment of alcohol withdrawal, consider diazepam IV/PO or phenobarbital IV/PO.
- We will continue to monitor the supply chain and provide updates as they are available.