

Giving your child Lorazepam (Ativan[®]) oral tablets

Lorazepam is the generic name for this medication.

Brand names for this medication are:

- Ativan[®]
- Nu-Loraz[®]
- Novolorazepam[®]
- Apo-Lorazepam[®]

What is this medication used for?

Lorazepam is used to:

- stop a seizure
- reduce the number of seizures

How do I store this medication?

Store the tablets in a dry area at room temperature. Place the tablets where you can easily get them in an emergency. Make sure they are out of the reach of children.

Check the expiry date on your prescription for Lorazepam. If the expiry date has passed do not use the medication. Contact your doctor or pharmacist for more medication.

How do I give my child this medication?

1. Give _____ mg of Lorazepam (Ativan[®]).
2. Place the tablet in the space between the cheek and the bottom gums. Be careful not to put your finger between your child's teeth.

Do not have your child swallow the tablet. When swallowed, the medication may not work as quickly. However, if your child does swallow the tablet, do not repeat the dose.

3. Apply gentle pressure with your finger over the top of the tablet. Gently rub the tablet against the gum for about 5 to 6 minutes. This will help the tablet dissolve.

If the seizure stops within 5 minutes of giving Lorazepam:

- Follow your doctor's advice regarding further medical care for your child. You may need to call the doctor or take your child to the doctor's office.

If the seizure does not stop within 5 minutes of giving Lorazepam:

- If directed by your doctor, give a second dose of Lorazepam.
- Call 911 to get medical help.

What side effects are possible?

After giving your child Lorazepam your child may experience:

- dizziness, loss of balance
- drowsiness

If your child is dizzy or drowsy, do not leave him or her alone.

Watch your child when he or she is moving to prevent falls or bumps.

When should I call the doctor?

Contact your family doctor or pediatrician if, after giving Lorazepam, you notice that your child:

- is breathing very slowly
- continues to be dizzy, drowsy or confused after 2 hours
- becomes irritable or restless
- has sleeping problems or nightmares

Call 911 if your child has any difficulty breathing.