

Giving your child rectal Lorazepam (Ativan[®])

**Lorazepam is the generic name for this medication.
Brand names for this medication are:**

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

To give Lorazepam into your child's rectum, you will need to use the injectable form of Lorazepam.

What is this medication used for?

Lorazepam is used to:

- stop a seizure which lasts more than 5 minutes
- reduce the number of seizures

How do I store this medication?

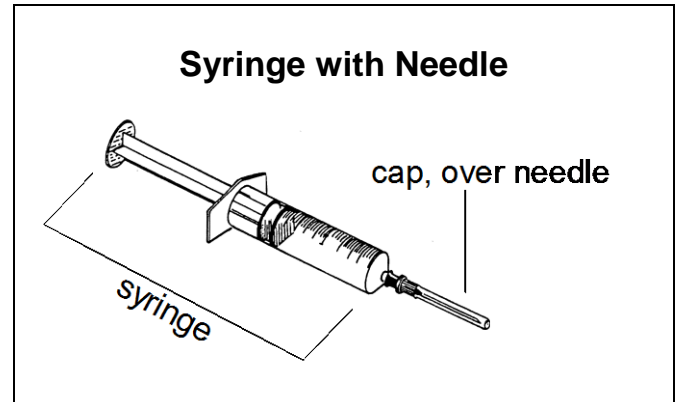
Injectable Lorazepam must be stored in the refrigerator, to protect it from heat and light. Store vials of Lorazepam with other supplies in a brown paper bag in the fridge door where you can quickly get them.

Check the expiry date and the color of the vial weekly and before using.

- Do not use if the expiry date has passed.
 - Do not use if the medicine is discoloured. Injectable Lorazepam should be clear, like water.
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What supplies do I need to give this medication?

- injectable Lorazepam
- 1 ml plastic syringe
- lubricant such as Muko or vaseline
- 1" needle
- a container of cool tap water
- a sharps container to safely dispose of needles



Ask the pharmacist at your drug store:

- to show you on the syringe how much Lorazepam to give
- what type of container you need to dispose of used needles at home

When used needle containers are full, return them to the drug store for safe disposal.

When you need more supplies you can get them at the drug store.

How do I give my child this medication?

Getting ready to give the medication:

1. Remove the cap from the vial of Lorazepam.
2. Open the syringe and needle packages.
3. Remove the cap from the syringe and attach the needle to the syringe.
4. Remove the cap on the needle.
5. Insert the needle into the vial.
6. Draw contents of the vial into the syringe – up to the prescribed amount of Lorazepam.
7. Check the markings on the syringe to make sure that you have drawn up the right amount of Lorazepam.
8. Remove the needle and syringe from the vial.
9. Put the cap back on the needle.

10. Remove the needle (with the cap on) from the syringe.

Giving your child the medication:

1. Make sure your child is lying down.
2. **Make sure the needle and cap are taken off the syringe.**
Do not insert needle or cap into the rectum. Cover the outside of the syringe with lubricant.
3. Gently insert the syringe into your child's rectum, about 4 to 5 cm (1.5 to 2 inches). For babies, insert the syringe 2 to 3 cm (about 1 inch). The syringe should go in easily – do not push.
4. Hold your child's buttocks with one hand. With the other hand, push down the plunger of the syringe to give the Lorazepam. Remove the syringe.
5. Check the time and keep your child's buttocks pressed together for about 5 minutes. This prevents the medication from leaking out.
6. Once the seizure has finished, put your used needle, syringe and empty medication vial into the container for disposal.
7. Make sure you get more supplies in case you need to give Lorazepam again.

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.