



2 March 2021

## **Medicine Supply Alert Notice**

### **Midazolam 10mg/2ml solution for injection ampoules**

**Priority: Level 2\***

**Valid until: until April 2021**

#### **Issue**

1. There are limited stocks of midazolam 10mg/2ml solution for injection ampoules available until April 2021.
2. To conserve stock for paediatric intensive care and palliative care, Adult Critical Care units should use the following presentations for continuous infusion (where possible): (flumazenil should be readily available in these areas in case reversal is urgently required):
3. midazolam 50mg/10ml solution for injection ampoules
4. midazolam 100mg/50ml solution for infusion vials
5. midazolam 50mg/50ml solution for infusion vials

#### **Advice and Actions**

6. **Secondary care pharmacy procurement teams, working with relevant clinical areas, should:**
  - assess local stock holding of midazolam 10mg/2ml solution for injection ampoules and only order further stock if there is insufficient available for use in palliative care or Paediatric Intensive Care;
  - ensure that midazolam 10mg/2ml solution for injection ampoules are only being prescribed for palliative care patients and Paediatric Intensive Care Units; and
  - work with Adult Critical Care Unit clinical leads to ensure larger volume presentations (midazolam 50mg/10ml solution for injection ampoules, 100mg/50ml solution for infusion vials and 50mg/50ml solution for infusion vials) are used for patients requiring continuous infusion.
7. **Primary care should:**
  - continue to order midazolam 10mg/2ml solution for injection ampoules in line with current demand for palliative care and are advised not to over order during this time
  - when prescribing midazolam 10mg/2ml as an anticipatory medication, review the amount required in order to balance timely access with the impact of increased demand on the medicines supply chain in light of the limited stock.

#### **Additional Information**

8. Midazolam is a high-risk medicine that has been associated with the risk of overdose and has an associated NHS Never Event (see Clinical Information section).

9. Clinical Information

- [NHS Never Event: Mis-selection of high-strength midazolam during conscious sedation \(January 2018\)](#)
- [Midazolam 10mg/2ml solution for injection ampoules](#)
- [Midazolam 50mg/50ml solution for infusion vials](#)
- [Midazolam 50mg/10ml solution for injection ampoules](#)
- [Midazolam 100mg/50ml solution for infusion vials](#)

**Enquiries**

10. Enquiries from Health Boards or healthcare professionals should be directed in the first instance to [PharmacyTeam@gov.scot](mailto:PharmacyTeam@gov.scot) (primary care) or [NSS.NHSSMedicineShortages@nhs.scot](mailto:NSS.NHSSMedicineShortages@nhs.scot) (secondary care).