

Update: Buccal Midazolam Preparations for Prescribing in Paediatrics

To: All GP practices, Pharmacotherapy Teams and Community Pharmacists

From: NHS Grampian Paediatric Epilepsy Service

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Please note this guidance replaces the previous alert regarding Oromucosal Midazolam Solution – Prescribing (dated: 31/08/18)

Recently some new strengths and preparations (2.5mg, 5mg & 7.5mg pre-filled syringes) of buccal midazolam, as the Epistatus[®] brand, have become available for prescribing in children as rescue treatment for status epilepticus. The purpose of this memo is to highlight which preparations are recommended locally:

- **Epistatus[®] oromucosal solution pre-filled syringes (2.5mg, 5mg, 7.5mg and 10mg strengths)** – These pre-filled syringes have recently become licensed in a variety of different strengths for children aged 3 months to less than 18 years and are now the first-line formulation choice for prescribing buccal midazolam in children locally.
(Note 10mg pre-filled syringe only licensed from 10 years and above).
Patients should not be switched to pre-filled syringes until the required training has been provided by the epilepsy specialist nurse.
- **Epistatus[®] 10mg/mL oromucosal solution (5mL bottle)** – This unlicensed product is available as a multi dose bottle and may still be prescribed for certain patients under the direction of the paediatric epilepsy service if a pre-filled syringe is not felt to be appropriate. When prescribing, for Vision, tick the 'specials' box on the Vision prescribing screen and for EMIS select the correct product from the preparations dropdown list.
- **Buccolam[®] oromucosal solution pre-filled syringes** – This brand of pre-filled syringes are not recommended for use within NHS Grampian and should not be prescribed locally.

Within paediatrics, a dose of 0.3mg per kg is used for buccal midazolam (maximum 10mg per dose), as per [Scottish Paediatric Epilepsy Network recommendations](#). Please note that this dosing differs from the age based dose banding suggested in the BNF for Children. If you are unsure which preparation a child should be prescribed, please get in touch with the epilepsy specialist nurse who will be able to confirm (gram.rachepilepsynurse@nhs.scot).

[Grampian Area Formulary](#) and ScriptSwitch has been updated to reflect these changes.