

# Monterey County EMS System Policy



Policy Number: N-1  
Effective Date: 5/4/2018  
Review Date: 6/30/2021

## CHEMICAL SEDATION

### BLS CARE

Routine medical care.

### ALS CARE

Routine medical care.

#### I. GENERAL INDICATIONS

- A. To reduce combative behavior that endangers patients or field personnel
- B. As an adjunct to pain relief for ALS procedures, such as cardioversion or cardiac pacing.
- C. Use CAUTION with:
  - 1. Elderly patients are especially sensitive to the effects of midazolam. They should receive a lower dose, and be closely monitored; Midazolam can cause significant respiratory depression, hypotension, and decreased level of consciousness. Administer concomitantly only when absolutely indicated. Administer lower doses of both one or more agents.

#### II. CONTRAINDICATIONS

- A. Absolute:
  - 1. Sensitivity to midazolam
  - 2. Systolic BP <90mmHg
- B. Relative:
  - 1. Nausea/Vomiting
  - 2. Suspected Drug or ETOH intoxication
  - 3. Head injury
  - 4. Depressed mentation
  - 5. Multisystem trauma
  - 6. Concomitant narcotic administration- this is a RELATIVE contraindication and is not intended to prevent the use of necessary narcotic analgesia, when indicated
  - 7. Relative contraindications MAY be the most likely cause for the condition that requires proposed sedation. The BEST JUDGEMENT OF THE PARAMEDIC is NECESSARY to evaluate the need for sedation.

III. PROCEDURE

- A. Give supplemental oxygen (titrate to 94-99% SPO<sub>2</sub>)
- B. Continuously monitor patient airway, including ETCO<sub>2</sub>
- C. Institute continuous cardiac monitoring
- D. Establish IV access if possible
- E. Be prepared to provide airway/ventilation support
- F. Ensure that receiving hospital staff are aware that patient has been sedated.

IV. INDICATIONS:

- A. To reduce combative behavior that endangers patients or field personnel. Always to be used in conjunction with restraints
- B. Cardioversion in the conscious patient
- C. Transcutaneous pacing in the conscious patient

V. MIDAZOLAM-DOSE/ROUTE:

A. Adult:

1. 2-4 mg IV/IO. May repeat ½ the original dose once in 5 minutes to a total maximum dose of 5 mg.

OR

5 mg IM/IN once.

2. Base contact required for additional dosages