

Lorazepam (Ativan)

P	Adult	1-2 mg IV, IO, IM and may repeat to a max 4 mg
	Pediatric	0.05-0.1 mg/kg IV, IO max 2 mg Weight Based Pediatric Dosing Chart Link

KEY POINT

Benzodiazepines are not routinely used for prehospital anxiety or skeletal muscle contractions. If a provider is presented with a situation where this is a consideration, [MCEP](#) contact is required

Class:

- Benzodiazepine, Sedative

Description of Use:

- Enhances the action of GABA to produce anxiolytic, hypnotic, anticonvulsant, muscle relaxant, and amnesic effects

Pharmacokinetics: (Route: IV, IM)

- Onset: **IV:** 5-15 mins **IM:** 15-30 mins
- Peak: **IV:** Unknown **IM:** 60-90 mins
- Duration: **IV:** 6-8 mins **IM:** 6-8 hrs
- Half-life: 14 hrs

Special Populations:

- Pregnancy Category: D
- Children: Neonates are more likely to have respiratory depression
- Elderly: Age related renal impairment may require dosage adjustment

Contraindications:

- Known sensitivity to benzodiazepines or its vehicle (polyethylene glycol, propylene glycol, and benzyl alcohol), acute narrow-angle glaucoma, sleep apnea syndrome, severe respiratory insufficiency
- Cautions: Avoid in patients with hepatic and/or renal failure; caution in patients with hepatic and/or renal impairment. Extreme caution when administering injection to elderly, very ill, or to patients with limited pulmonary reserve; hypoventilation and/or hypoxic cardiac arrest may occur

Adverse reactions:

- Respiratory depression/failure, hypotension, somnolence, headache, hypoventilation, injection site reactions, paradoxical excitement