Guidelines for Medical Practitioners to write the Emergency Medication Management Plan (Rectal Valium)

When a child is prescribed an emergency medication by their treating doctor for the control of seizures this information should be contained in an Emergency Medication Management Plan (EMMP). The plan should be completed by the doctor who provides the epilepsy medical management or prescribes the medication.

This EMMP should be attached to the person’s Epilepsy Management Plan (EMP). Training for teachers and the child’s support network needs to be arranged against this plan. Training can be provided by your local Epilepsy Australia member organisation. You can locate template plans and find your local epilepsy organisation by visiting: www.epilepsymartschools.org.au

Prescriber to complete:

1. **First dose**
   - You must write out the first dose of the emergency medication in full e.g. 5mg in 1ml
   - For single seizures: select the preferred option by ticking the appropriate box. You must state for which seizure the medication is to be given e.g. tonic clonic and when it should be given e.g. if the seizure continues for 5 minutes or longer.
   - For clusters of seizures: it must be specified how many seizures are to have occurred before the first dose is administered or write other specific instructions.

2. **Second dose**
   - If a second dose is authorized write out the second dose of emergency medication in full e.g. 5mg in 1ml. Be specific about for which seizure type and at what time the dose is to be given in relation to the first dose.

3. **Maximum number of emergency medication doses to be given in a 24-hour period**
   - Specify how many doses can be given in a 24-hour period. This section is often overlooked but is very important. Maintaining seizure and medication records is vital for epilepsy management.

4. **Dial 000 to call the ambulance**
   - Clearly indicate when to call an ambulance by selecting the appropriate option and or write specific instructions when selecting ‘other’.

Emergency Medication Management Plan
Rectal Valium (only to be administered by a trained person)

Rectal Valium Management Plan for (name):

Date: Date of birth:

Administration method: Rectal

1. **First Dose Rectal Valium**
   - First dose = mg
   - For single seizures:
     - As soon as (seizure type) begins
     - If (seizure type) continues longer than mins
   - For clusters of seizures:
     - When (number) (seizure type) occur/s within mins hrs
   - Other (please specify):
   - Special instructions:

2. **Second Dose Rectal Valium**
   - Second dose = mg
   - Not prescribed OR
   - If the (seizure type) continues for another mins following the first dose
   - When another (number) (seizure type) occur/s within mins hrs following the first dose
   - Other (please specify):
   - Special instructions:

3. **Maximum number**
   - Maximum number:

4. **Dial 000 to call the ambulance**
   - Prior to administering Rectal Valium
   - If the seizure has not stopped minutes after giving the Rectal Valium
   - Other (please specify):

Attach this document to your Epilepsy Management Plan if Rectal Valium is prescribed. This Emergency Plan should be completed by the prescribing doctor in consultation with the person and/or their family or carer. It must be attached to their epilepsy management plan which has been signed by their doctor. The Epilepsy Foundation recommends this plan be reviewed and signed by the person’s doctor annually.
5. Describe what to do after emergency medication has been administered

- This information will be very specific to the child with epilepsy and the way they usually recover from their seizures. It is helpful if the doctor can specify how long it is necessary to supervise the child after the emergency medication has been administered.

6. Prescribing doctor or specialist

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7. Family/caregivers to complete

- Include other specific instructions in this section e.g. information about storage and safe transporting of medication outside the home (use an insulation pack in hot weather), for outings, school events, school camps or people to contact if the emergency medication has been administered. It is also helpful if the family member or support person who has the greatest involvement with the child's epilepsy completes this section with their name, signature, date and relationship to the person with epilepsy.

**Recommended RECTAL VALIUM storage information:**
- Keep out of reach of children
- Protect from light and store at room temperature (below 25°C)
- Regularly check the expiry date.

Other considerations about emergency medications

- Are there any school, workplace, or government department policies or guidelines in relation to administering an emergency medication for the control of seizures?
- Who is responsible for ensuring the plan is completed and regularly reviewed?
- Who checks the expiry date of the medication?
- Who is responsible for ensuring the person has a current script for the emergency medication and an ongoing supply?
- Who has a copy of the plan and where is it located?
- Where is the emergency medication stored? List all locations.
- Remember to record the date/time/dose of all emergency medication administered.