Government of Western Australia
North Metropolitan Health Service
Women and Newborn Health Service

ADULT MEDICATION GUIDELINE	
Lorazepam	
Scope (Staff):	All WNHS Staff
Scope (Area):	Obstetrics and Gynaecology
This document should be read in conjunction with the Disclaimer.	

Quick Links

Dose	Administration	Monitoring	Pregnancy and Breastfeeding

Restrictions

Formulary: Restricted

HIGH RISK Medication

Medication Class

Benzodiazepine

Presentation

Tablet: 1mg, 2.5mg

Storage

Store at room temperature, below 25°C

Schedule 4 Restricted Medication

Dose

Anxiety

Oral:

2-3 mg (up to 4 mg) daily in 1-3 doses

Insomnia

Oral:

1-2 mg at night

Premedication

Oral:

2-4 mg the night before and/or 1-2 hours before the procedure

Administration

Oral

Can be taken with or without food

Monitoring

Drowsiness.

Pregnancy

1st Trimester: Considered safe to use

2nd Trimester: Considered safe to use

3rd Trimester: Monitoring required

For more information, please contact KEMH Obstetric Medicines Information Service.

Breastfeeding

Considered safe to use.

Use the lowest effective dose for the shortest duration possible. Closely observe the breastfed infant for any adverse effects such as excessive drowsiness, poor feeding and unusual sleeping pattern changes.

For more information, please contact KEMH Obstetric Medicines Information Service.

Comments

Long term use may result in tolerance and dependence.

Suddenly stopping treatment (or reducing or tapering the dose too quickly) in dependent people may produce withdrawal symptoms.

Related Policies, Procedures & Guidelines

HDWA Mandatory Policies:

Medicines Handling Policy

WNHS Pharmaceutical and Medicines Management Guidelines:

Schedule 4 Restricted (S4R) and Schedule 8 (S8) Medications

References

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The Royal Women's Hospital. Lorazepam. In: Pregnancy and Breastfeeding Medicines Guide [Internet]. Parkville (Victoria): The Royal Women's Hospital; 2019 [cited 2025 Oct 28]. Available from: https://thewomenspbmg.org.au/

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