

Feedback

We appreciate and encourage feedback. If you need advice or are concerned about any aspect of care or treatment please speak to a member of staff or contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS):

Freephone: 0800 183 0204

From a mobile or abroad: 0115 924 9924 ext 65412 or 62301

E-mail: pals@nuh.nhs.uk

Letter: NUH NHS Trust, c/o PALS, Freepost NEA 14614, Nottingham NG7 1BR

www.nuh.nhs.uk

Managing seizures (fits) in adults with cancer affecting the brain

Information for patients/carers

Palliative Care Team

If you require a full list of references for this leaflet please email patientinformation@nuh.nhs.uk or phone 0115 924 9924 ext. 67184.

The Trust endeavours to ensure that the information given here is accurate and impartial.



This document can be provided in different languages and formats. For more information please contact:

0115 919 4402 (QMC)
or
0115 993 4977 (City)

Management plan for:

Name.....

DOB.....

Description of a typical seizure (fit) when Buccolam should be given:

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Give 10mg of Buccolam

This is all of a RED coloured Buccolam syringe

My Notes/questions

Introduction

This leaflet provides an overview of first aid steps and the use of Buccolam following a seizure (fit). More detailed information about Buccolam is provided in the patient information leaflet included in the package. Although originally designed for use in children, Buccolam is also used in adults as an alternative to injections.

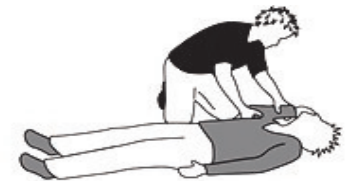
Buccolam should be used only as directed by the doctor and only for the person for whom it is prescribed.

If a seizure (fit) occurs

First aid instructions

- cushion head of the person
- NEVER put anything in their mouth
- do not restrict their movements
- remove sharp objects from nearby
- do not move them unless in danger
- once it is over, place them in the recovery position (see picture)*
- stay with them until fully recovered.

Many fits will stop on their own within 5 minutes. If they continue longer than this, Buccolam should be given



RECOVERY POSITION

*For more information on first aid / seizures see:
www.epilepsy.org.uk

What is Buccolam?

This is a medication used to stop a prolonged fit.

When do I give Buccolam?

Buccolam is given when the person has a 'generalised' fit lasting more than **5 minutes**, without any sign of them recovering, **i.e. they are unresponsive, with stiff or jerking muscles, which may be continuous or stop–start.**

How do I use the correct dose?

The usual adult dose is 10 mg. The dose is written on the side of the syringe.

A 10mg dose is also indicated by a red syringe cap.

This cap must be removed before giving the medication to avoid risk of choking.

How do I give the Buccolam?

Buccal means cheek.

1. Place the tip of the syringe inside of the mouth between the cheek and gum. Do not place the syringe or anything else between the person's teeth.
2. Give half the dose over 5 seconds on one side, and the remaining half of the dose over 5 seconds on the opposite side of the mouth.

How quickly does Buccolam work?

Buccolam takes 5–10 minutes to work and most people will sleep after the fit has finished. They should remain on their side during this time.

Do I need to call 999?

You need to call an ambulance when the person:

- appears to have difficulty breathing or stops breathing
- is still fitting 10 minutes after giving the Buccolam.

How often can I use it?

Do not use Buccolam more than twice in any 24 hour period. Allow at least 6 hours before giving a second dose

Are there any side effects?

Buccolam can make people sleepy or restless. It may slow down breathing, but very rarely.

Is it safe to give Buccolam if the patient is taking other drugs?

Yes. However, do not give Buccolam when using rectal diazepam or other types of buccal midazolam.

Useful information for carers?

- Store Buccolam in its plastic tube out of reach of children
- Check the expiry date before using

Useful information for patients?

- Ensure you take Buccolam with you if you are going out
- Obtain further supplies from your GP to avoid running out

Note

Some people may already have an individual management plan which may differ from this leaflet.