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## Medication Template

**STUDENT NAME: Madison Proy**

**MEDICATION: Diazepam (Valium)**

**PHARMACOLOGIC CLASSIFICATION:**  
Benzodiazepines

**THERAPEUTIC CLASSIFICATION:**  
Anxiolytics (Antianxiety Agents)

### PHARMACOLOGICAL ACTIONS

- 1) Depresses the CNS
- 2) Enhance the inhibitory effects of the transmitter GABA
- 3) Acts on the limbic system

### THERAPEUTIC EFFECTS

- 1) Relief of anxiety
- 2) Relief of skeletal muscle spasm/spasticity
- 3) Treatment of seizure disorders
- 4) Relief of acute alcohol withdrawal
- 5) Anesthetic agent for moderate sedation

### ADVERSE REACTIONS/SIDE EFFECTS

- 1) Dizziness/drowsiness/lethargy
- 2) Impaired recall of events
- 3) Hypotension/tachycardia/resp. depression
- 4) Tolerance/dependence
- 5) Withdrawal symptoms
- 6) Overdose/toxicity

### MEDICATION INTERACTIONS

- 1) Severe sedation & respiratory depression when taken w/ other CNS depressants (alcohol, opioids, and other benzodiazepines)
- 2) Smoking decreases the effects of drug
- 3) Cimetidine (Tagamet) increases drug levels

### CONTRAINDICATIONS/PRECAUTIONS

- 1) Contradicted for pregnant women (teratogenic drug)
- 2) Contradicted for pts with glaucoma
- 3) Take precautions with older adult pts & children < 18 years of age
- 4) Take precautions with pts experiencing renal or hepatic impairment
- 5) Take precautions with pts experiencing mental health disorders, suicidal ideation, or have addiction risk

### NURSING INTERVENTIONS

- 1) Monitor pt following admin. to prevent falls
- 2) Monitor VS especially if given through IV
- 3) Monitor pts for manifestations of tolerance and dependence
- 4) Monitor for signs of withdrawal
- 5) Taper dose over 1-2 weeks

### ROUTES/ADULT DOSAGES

Routes: orally, rectally, IM, or IV

Adult dosage: 2 to 10mg 2 to 4 times/day

### CLIENT EDUCATION

- 1) Educate pt on being careful when ambulating, driving, or using machinery until they are aware of how the drug affects them
- 2) Educate the client to not increase the prescribed dose
- 3) Instruct the pt to taper the drug slowly to avoid withdrawal