

Clobazam

Usage

Clobazam is an anti convulsant used to control focal and generalised seizures/fits (focal and generalised). Sometimes Clobazam is used to stop a cluster of seizures. It must be prescribed by a doctor. You should never give your child anyone else's medications.

Side Effects

All medications have side effects. Not everyone will experience side effects. Below are some of the possible side effects your child may experience:

- **Sedation:** If your child is drowsy or suffering from tiredness please discuss this with your doctor. It is not uncommon in the first 2 weeks of starting the drug to be more tired than usual however, if it continues beyond this, you should seek help. If significant drowsiness occurs seek help immediately.
- **Rash:** If your child develops a rash, there are important features to look for such as: your child may develop red eyes, red mouth, and/or blisters around the mouth, nose and lips. If your child develops any of these symptoms please call your doctor immediately. **The drug may need to be stopped immediately under medical supervision.**
- **Irritability:** Some children can become more irritable than usual. They can have sudden aggressive outbursts, hyperactivity, insomnia (inability to sleep), or depression. These latter side effects are only seen occasionally.
- **Drooling:** Your child may develop an increase in saliva and have some drooling. If this occurs and is a concern, please let your doctor know.

Other possible side effects:

- Constipation
- Loss of appetite
- Dizziness
- Unsteadiness
- Dry mouth
- Hyperexcitability

Can other medications be given with Clobazam?

There are some drugs that are not compatible with Clobazam, so always tell your doctor that your child is taking Clobazam. Other medicines that cause sedation may have a cumulative effect. This is also important if you are giving your child herbal or complementary medicines.

Epilepsy and Pregnancy

If a pregnancy is planned, a discussion with your neurologist is recommended.

Any issues related to child bearing please refer to the PENNSW website:
www.PENNSW.com.au

What else do I need to know?

- If Clobazam is withdrawn it must be done slowly under medical supervision.
- Particularly in a child with swallowing and movement problems, Clobazam can cause excessive sedation and interfere with breathing.

Monitoring and medication levels

- There is no need to do regular blood monitoring with Clobazam.
- The only monitoring required is a seizure diary to see if there is a decrease in the number of seizures.