

## CLONAZEPAM (KLONOPIN<sup>TM</sup>)

Clonazepam (kloe-NAH-ze-pam) is a medicine used to control seizures, panic disorder, and anxiety. **If your child is allergic to medicines known as benzodiazepines (such as Valium®, Ativan®, Versed®, Librium®, or Tranxene®) he or she should not take this medicine.**

### DOCTOR'S ORDER

Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Weight: \_\_\_\_\_

This medicine should be given with meals to help decrease upset stomach.

**Tablet:** Give a dose (amount) \_\_\_\_\_ of this medicine \_\_\_\_\_ times a day at these times:  
\_\_\_\_\_

- Ask your pharmacist, nurse, or doctor before crushing any medicine.
- Other \_\_\_\_\_.

**Liquid:** A dose (\_\_\_\_\_ mL) of this medicine is equal to (amount) \_\_\_\_\_. Give a dose of this medicine \_\_\_\_\_ times a day at these times:  
\_\_\_\_\_

- **Shake this medicine** before measuring the dose.
- Use a pediatric measuring device (available at the pharmacy) or a measuring spoon to measure the exact dose. Do not measure liquid medicines in kitchen spoons.

### DRUG-NUTRIENT INTERACTIONS

- Your child should not drink alcohol. Combining this medicine with alcohol can cause drowsiness and can be dangerous. Some cold medicines, cough syrups and mouthwashes contain alcohol. Check with your doctor or pharmacist before giving non prescription medicines.
- Clonazepam can increase the elimination of some other drugs. Also, some other drugs can either increase or decrease the elimination of clonazepam. Ask your child's doctor and pharmacist before starting any new medicine. This is true whether the new medicine requires a prescription or can be bought without a prescription.

### REMEMBER

- Read the label carefully and make sure you are giving your child the proper amount. It is easy to confuse the many different dosage forms and strengths.
- If the medicine is a liquid, use a pediatric measuring device available at the pharmacy to measure the exact dose. Don't measure liquid medicines in kitchen spoons.
- Give the exact amount of medicine ordered by your doctor.
- Stay with your child until he or she has swallowed the dose of medicine.

## IF YOU FORGET TO GIVE A DOSE

- If you forget to give a dose, don't just skip the dose. If it's within 2 hours of the scheduled time, give the dose and stay on schedule.
- If you forget to give a dose and it's been more than 2 hours or if it is almost time for the next dose, give the dose at the time you remember and call the doctor. **Do not double a dose to make up for the missed dose.**

## IF A DOSE IS VOMITED

- If your child swallows the dose and then vomits, **do not** repeat the dose unless the whole tablet comes back out. (About 2/3 of the medicine will stay in the stomach after vomiting. An overdose is more dangerous than missing part of a dose.) If the vomiting continues, call your child's doctor or the Neurology Clinic at (614) 722-4625.
- If you miss a dose for any reason, please call the doctor for further advice.

## POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

- |  |                       |                          |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| ▪ Increased saliva (much more drooling than usual) | ▪ Trouble swallowing  | ▪ Drowsiness             |
| ▪ Nervousness, irritability                        | ▪ Dry mouth           | ▪ Dizziness              |
| ▪ Unsteady walk                                    | ▪ Tremor              | ▪ Constipation           |
| ▪ Trouble urinating                                | ▪ Trouble with vision | ▪ Slurred speech         |
| ▪ Loss of appetite                                 | ▪ Weakness            | ▪ Behavior problems      |
| ▪ Anemia (low oxygen in the blood)                 | ▪ Headache            | ▪ Nausea (upset stomach) |
|  | ▪ Rash                |                          |

## SPECIAL NOTE FOR FEMALE PATIENTS

- If a patient thinks she might be pregnant, she should tell the doctor before she begins taking this or any medicine. This medicine may cause problems if taken during pregnancy.

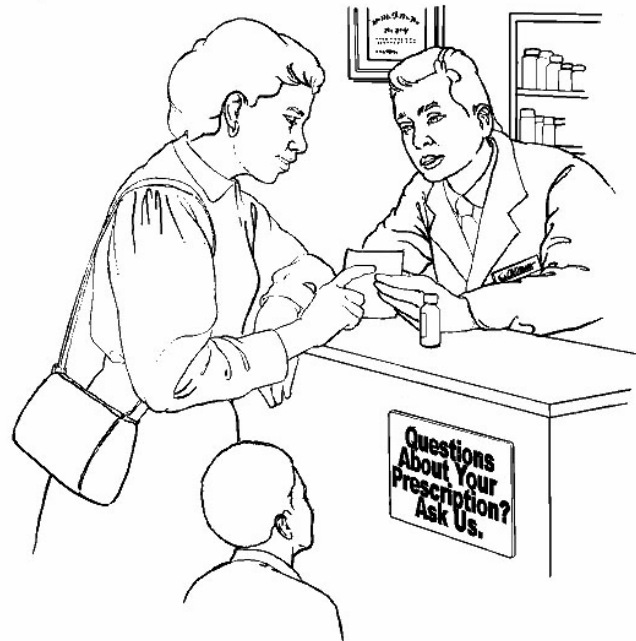
## WHAT TO DO ABOUT SIDE EFFECTS

- If your child's stomach is upset, give small, frequent meals.
- If your child is drowsy, dizzy or unsteady, he should not use machinery such as a lawn mower or tractor, or ride a bike or motor bike.
- Don't give your child alcohol or medicines that cause sleep while taking this medicine. Some cough syrups and other non-prescription medicines contain alcohol. Check with your pharmacist or doctor before giving non-prescription medicines.

## WHEN TO CALL THE DOCTOR

Call your child's doctor if any of the following occurs:

- If your child has more seizures than before or they are more severe.
- Bleeding or bruising easily.
- Fever and chills.
- More congestion than usual.
- If side effects continue after 24 hours.



**Picture 1** Get the prescription refilled at least 2 days before the last dose is given.

## WHEN YOU GET THE PRESCRIPTION REFILLED

- Have your pharmacist give you two labeled containers if your child care provider will be giving this medicine.
- Get this prescription refilled at least TWO DAYS before the last dose is given. This is very important.
- Make sure all refills are the same brand. Do not use the generic form of this medicine without checking with your doctor or pharmacist first.
- Some pharmacies may not have this medicine. Please ask your nurse to call your pharmacy before you leave the hospital to see if they have this medicine or can order it for you. You may also have the prescription filled at the Nationwide Children's Hospital Pharmacy.

## STORAGE OF MEDICINE

- **Store all medicine out of the reach of children.**
- Keep this medicine in the refrigerator. Do not freeze.
- Don't use this medicine after the expiration date printed on the container.
- When your doctor decides the medicine is no longer needed, flush the rest of the medicine down the toilet.

## SAFETY TIPS

- Don't stop giving this medicine or change the amount given without first talking with your child's doctor.
- Tell your child's doctor and pharmacist if your child has an unusual or allergic reaction to any medicine.
- The doctor prescribed this medicine for your child **only**. **Do not give it to anyone else.**
- Your child should wear a medical ID bracelet or necklace. In an emergency the doctor will need to know that your child is taking this medicine.
- Tell your child's teacher, school nurse, school coach, baby-sitter, and others that your child is taking this medicine and what side effects to watch for.
- If you carry medicine in your purse, keep it in its childproof container and keep your purse out of the reach of children.
- Bring all your child's medicines with you **in the original containers** whenever your child sees a doctor, goes to an emergency room, or is admitted to the hospital. This helps doctors who may not know your child.
- Learn the name, spelling, and dose of this medicine. Also teach your child if he is old enough. You will need to know this information when you call your doctor or pharmacist.
- If your child takes too much of this medicine, or if someone else takes this medicine, first call the Central Ohio Poison Center at 1-800-222-1222 (TTY 614-228-2272). They will tell you what to do.

## FOLLOW-UP APPOINTMENTS

- Your follow-up appointment is on (date) \_\_\_\_\_ at (time) \_\_\_\_\_.
- Your child may need to have blood drawn at each visit.
- You can expect to have regular follow-up appointments with your doctor.

If you have any questions, please call your child's doctor, nurse or pharmacist.