

Oakland County Medical Control Authority



EMS Advisory		
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Title:	Valium and Fentanyl Shortages	
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Steve McGraw, DO
EMS Medical Director
smcgraw@comcast.net

Bonnie Kincaid, PhD
Executive Director
bonnie@ocmca.org

Trina Basaj, MBA
System Administrator
trina@ocmca.org

Hospital Pharmacies in Southeast Michigan are reporting an ongoing shortage of Valium and Fentanyl. Some hospitals have the Valium and Fentanyl in alternate packaging and other hospitals do not have it at all and are even using alternate medications in the Emergency Department.

Per the Regional Pharmacy Protocol, and consistent with past practice, Pharmacies should note on the exterior top of the medication box that Valium and/or Fentanyl are in alternate packaging or that one or both are not in the box.

Per Dr. McGraw, in cases of emergency, Midazolam could be ordered via On Line Radio Medical Control. Dosage would be 1-2 mg IVP for adults and a second dose of 1-2 mg after 5 minutes, if seizure continues. Contact Medical control for additional doses. For pediatrics, start at 0.05 mg/kg IVP and repeat in 5 minutes, if seizure continues. Contact Medical control for additional doses.

This is the excerpt from the Southeast Michigan Medication Exchange and Replacement Protocol that addresses Alternate Packaging and Shortages:

MEDICATION BOXES – ALTERNATIVE PACKAGING AND SHORTAGES:

- A. Routinely, participating hospital pharmacies must provide items only in the dosage, concentration and packaging listed. Use of alternative vendors or manufacturers is acceptable if consistent with the required contents.
- B. For products in short supply hospital pharmacies may stock the Medication Boxes/APacks with less than a 90 day expiration date.
- C. When a medication in alternative packaging is the only product available, place alternative medication, use directions and supplies for medication preparation inside the Medication Box/A-Pack.
- D. Attach a sticker to the exterior top of the Medication Box or to the clear side near the bottom of the A-Pack stating the substitution.
- E. Directions for specific medications in short supply, throughout the regional exchange system will be addressed through communications with participating pharmacies as approved by the Regional Protocol participating MCAs.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact the OCMCA.