

## Sublingual lorazepam 1mg

Lorazepam is well absorbed and an effective anxiolytic when given sublingually (a recognised unlicensed indication).

In the NHS Scotland Palliative Care Guidelines, sublingual lorazepam has several uses including breathlessness with anxiety, in the emergency sedation of an acutely agitated patient and distressing restlessness in the last few days of life. For further details please [Click Here](#)

## Prescribing for the sublingual route

If prescribers wish patients to use lorazepam sublingually then this route must be specified/ written on the prescription to ensure that patients receive a suitable product.

## Dispensing a suitable product

Some brands of generic tablets dissolve more easily in the mouth than others. Currently the generic product manufactured by Genus Pharmaceuticals is suitable for sublingual use. This generic product should be dispensed whenever possible on prescriptions written for 'sublingual lorazepam'. It is also scored which allows for a greater degree of flexibility in dosing. The Drug Tariff price for lorazepam will be paid when this product is dispensed.

## Dosage

This will be individualised for each patient but treatment should start at the lowest recommended dose. For further information on recommended doses, please refer to [Breathlessness in Palliative Care](#).

When placed under the tongue, tablets should dissolve in approximately 20 seconds. The patient should not swallow for at least 2 minutes to allow sufficient time for absorption.

## Disclaimer

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