

What is most important to remember?

- Lorazepam (Ativan®) can be habit-forming and should only be used by the person it was prescribed for
- Use this medicine as directed by your doctor
- Many times this medicine is ordered to be taken on an as-needed basis. Do not take more often than directed by your doctor
- Do not start any new medicines, over-the-counter drugs or herbal remedies without talking to your doctor
- Tell all doctors, dentists and pharmacists that you are using lorazepam (Ativan®)
- Contact your prescriber if your symptoms or health problems do not get better or are becoming worse

If you have questions:

Ask your doctor, nurse or pharmacist for more information about lorazepam (Ativan®)

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**Lorazepam
(Ativan®):
Important Patient Information**



MEDICINE of THE HIGHEST ORDER



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What does lorazepam (Ativan®) do?

- It is used to treat symptoms of anxiety, panic attacks, and to help calm you before procedures
- It can also be used to treat seizures, and some sleep problems

How should lorazepam (Ativan®) be used?

- Use this medicine as directed by your doctor
- Many times this medicine is ordered to be taken on an as-needed basis
- Take with or without food. Take with food if it causes an upset stomach

What should I do if I forget to take a dose of lorazepam (Ativan®)?

- Often times this medicine is ordered to be taken on an as-needed basis. Do not take more often than by your doctor
- Take a missed dose as soon as you remember
- If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your normal dose time
- Do not take 2 doses at the same time or extra doses

If you have any of the following side effects, call your doctor or visit the emergency room immediately:

- Big change in balance
- If seizures get worse or are not the same after starting lorazepam
- Depressed mood
- Any sign of a severe allergic reaction including: rash; hives; red, swollen, blistered or peeling skin with or without fever; wheezing; tightness of chest or throat; trouble breathing or talking; swelling of face, lips, tongue or throat

Who should know I am taking lorazepam (Ativan®)?

- Keep a list of all your medicines (prescription, natural products, supplements, vitamins, over-the-counter) and give it to your healthcare provider (doctor, nurse, nurse practitioner, pharmacist, or physician assistant)

Are there any interactions with other drugs that I need to worry about?

- There are many drug interactions that may increase your risk of side effects
- Do not start new prescription, over-the-counter medicines, or herbal and dietary supplements without telling your doctor

What side effects could occur with lorazepam (Ativan®)?

- Feeling lightheaded, sleepy, or having blurred eyesight or change in thinking clearly
- Dry mouth and blurred vision
- Feeling tired or weak
- Change in balance

What are some things that I need to be aware of when taking lorazepam (Ativan®)?

- Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are allergic to lorazepam, or if you are allergic to any other medicines, foods, or substances
- Before using this medicine, tell your doctor if you have glaucoma, kidney disease, liver disease, or lung disease
- This medicine is a controlled substance and may be habit forming with long-term use
- This medicine may make you drowsy. Do not drive or do other tasks or actions that call for you to be alert or have clear eyesight until you know how the medicine affects you
- Avoid drinking alcohol (beer, wine, liquor, or mixed drinks). Drinking alcohol will increase your risk of side effects
- Talk to your doctor before taking this medicine if you are pregnant, plan on getting pregnant, or if you are breastfeeding. You should not take this medicine while pregnant or breastfeeding
- If you have been taking this medicine for more than 10 days, talk with your doctor before stopping. You may want to slowly stop this medicine
- Ask your doctor or pharmacist how to get rid of unused medicine. Do not put this medicine in the trash or flush down the toilet
- Do not share this medicine with anyone
- Store in a cool, dry place. Do not store in the bathroom
- Keep all medicines out of reach of children and pets