

Hypotension

Hippo-BP

Although oral administration of triazolam has minimal cardiovascular effects, the medication given intravenously may cause hypotension. The medication has muscle relaxant properties that affect the heart and blood vessels.

Paradoxical Excitement

Parrot-ox Excited

Paradoxical excitement is a common side effect of benzodiazepines and is characterized by increased talkativeness, excessive movement, emotional release, and excitement.

Amnesia

Memory-eraser

By acting on the hippocampus and cerebral cortex, triazolam causes anterograde amnesia. The patient may forget events after taking the medication. Evaluate the possibility of anterograde amnesia if the patient complains of forgetfulness.

Confusion

Confucius

By affecting the hippocampus and cerebral cortex centers of the brain, triazolam causes CNS depression such as confusion. The CNS effects are dose-dependent and excessive dosage may cause stupor. To minimize withdrawal symptoms, slowly taper the medication.

Contraindications

Pregnancy

Caution-tape at Pregnant-woman

Since benzodiazepines are lipid-soluble and cross the placental barrier, triazolam is contraindicated in pregnancy. The medication may cause congenital malformations in the fetus and CNS depression near term. If the patient is female and of childbearing age, warn the patient about the risk of fetal harm when using this Category X teratogenic medication. Instruct the patient to discontinue use of triazolam if pregnancy occurs.

Considerations

Short-Term Administration

Nurse-in-Shorts Administering

Tolerance to hypnotic effects can develop quickly in patients taking triazolam, in as little as 11 to 18 days, which is much faster than other benzodiazepines.