

Benzodiazepine intoxication

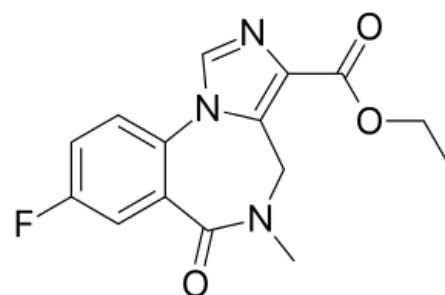
This article has been translated from WikiSkripta; ready for the **editor's review**.

Benzodiazepines are drugs having hypnotic, sedative, myorelaxant and anticonvulsant effects.

The most frequently used substances include:

- **diazepam**' ,
- **bromazepam**' (Lexaurin®),
- **alprazolam**' (Neurol®),
- **flunitrazepam**' (Rohypnol®).

Benzodiazepines increase the action of **GABA**' on receptors, reduce spinal reflexes and inhibit ARAS. Their toxicity is not very high - they have a **large therapeutic range**' (twenty times the dose will cause moderate toxic effects).



flumazenil

Clinical picture

After 30-120 minutes, somnolence, ataxia, hypotension, coma and even respiratory arrest and death occur.

Therapy

- Repeated doses of black coal, within 1 hour after ingestion gastric lavage, symptomatic and supportive therapy.
- Specific antagonist - **flumazenil**' (in coma 0.2 mg i.v.; can be repeated up to a maximum dose of 3.0 mg).



Links

- Benzodiazepines
- Benzodiazepines (pediatrics)
- Psychopharmaceuticals

Source

- BENEŠ, George. *Study Materials* [online]. [cit. 2010-02-24]. <<http://jirben.wz.cz>>.

References

- PELCLOVÁ, Daniela. *Occupational diseases and intoxication*. 2. edition. Prague : Karolinum, 2006. 207 pp. ISBN 80-246-1183-X.