

HYPNOVEL – FACTS

1. **What is Hypnovel?**

Hypnovel is one of the benzodiazepine class of drugs. This group includes Serapax, Valium, Mogodon. Hypnovel is a short sedative often used for minor procedures in hospitals, for example in day surgery. It is not a general anaesthetic when given intramuscularly.

2. **What happens with Hypnovel?**

Patient's report that very little apparently happens. We know that there is a loss of time perception ie 2 hours seems like 5 minutes. There is also amnesia that varies in degree.

3. **Is it safe?**

Using Hypnovel intramuscularly is safe. There is no requirement for an anaesthetist to Monitor you. The dentist is able to converse with you and people usually bring up any difficulties they may have in the normal way, for example debris in the throat. It doesn't change the way you behave at all.

We also have an antidote on the premises to reverse the effects of Hypnovel.

We have been using Hypnovel since 1986 without problems.

4. **Is it toxic or allergenic?**

We include Hypnovel in the compatibility test. Hundreds of such tests have elicited only 3 or 4 people for whom it was inappropriate. Women who are pregnant or breast-feeding can't have Hypnovel, it is also contraindicated for children under 12 years or anyone who has Myaesthesia Gravis, Glaucoma or acute narrow angle glaucoma.

5. **What does the patient do when sedated?**

Nothing unusual. People respond to question normally albeit a bit more slowly.

When unstimulated they often drop off to sleep and this frequently happens during dental procedures.

We have had no experiences where people have behaved inappropriately or disclosed confidences.

6. **Have any patients been unhappy with Hypnovel?**

Yes. Occasionally some people are disturbed by the amnesia you get. Many people make their own way home afterwards (though you should never drive) and do not remember how they got home afterwards. For some people this is disturbing. If you have any doubts it maybe better to have someone take you home.

7. **What is the upside?**

Every year Hypnovel allows us to perform normal dental procedures on people who were unable to face dentistry. Timely dentistry means doing things whilst they are small and economical. For those short of time it enables long appointments to be made which reduces the number of visits.

It is very economical and safe compared with intravenous or general anaesthesia.