

**Table 2. THERAPEUTIC ACTIONS OF BENZODIAZEPINES (IN SHORT-TERM USE)**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Clinical Use</b>
<b>Anxiolytic</b> - relief of anxiety	- Anxiety and panic disorders, phobias
<b>Hypnotic</b> - promotion of sleep	- Insomnia
<b>Myorelaxant</b> - muscle relaxation	- Muscle spasms, spastic disorders
<b>Anticonvulsant</b> - stop fits, convulsions	- Fits due to drug poisoning, some forms of epilepsy
<b>Amnesia</b> - impair short-term memory	- Premedication for operations, sedation for minor surgical procedures

**Other clinical uses, utilising combined effects:**

- Alcohol detoxification
- Acute psychosis with hyperexcitability and aggressiveness