

DiphenhydrAMINE

Classification

Antihistamine

Indications

- ACP: Adjunct treatment of allergic reaction

Contraindications

- Hypersensitivity to antihistamines
- Neonates
- Premature infants

Adult dosages

- ACP: Allergic reaction
- 50 mg IV or 1 mg/kg to maximum of 50 mg

Pediatric Considerations And Dosing

[Follow weight-based dosing](#)

- ACP: Allergic reaction
- 1 mg/kg IM/IV to maximum of 50 mg

Mechanism Of Action

Antihistamine with anticholinergic and sedating side effects. Appears to compete with histamine for receptors on effector cells.

Pharmacokinetics

Intramuscular:

- Onset: rapid
- Peak: unknown
- Half-life: 1-4 hours
- Duration: 4-6 hours

Adverse Effects

Most adverse effects are similar to other anticholinergic and antihistamine medications: mucosal membrane dryness, nervousness, irritability, and fatigue. Effects are dose-dependent.

Overdose

Symptoms of overdose are similar to those of atropine toxicity, and can include flushing, dilated pupils, hallucinations, confusion, ataxia, seizures, and loss of consciousness. Treatment is primarily supportive.

Warning And Precautions

DiphenhydrAMINE will not abort or terminate an allergic reaction that is progressing to anaphylaxis. It must not be used in place of EPINEPHrine in these patients.

DiphenhydrAMINE should be used with caution in patients with narrow-angle glaucoma, stenosing peptic ulcer, pyloroduodenal obstruction, symptomatic prostatic hypertrophy, or bladder neck obstruction.

Drug Interactions

DiphenhydrAMINE can potentiate the effects of alcohol, benzodiazepines, and other CNS depressants. Drugs with anticholinergic properties, including tricyclic antidepressants, monoamineoxidase inhibitors, or other antihistamines, may also act synergistically.

