



REGIONAL ADULT PARENTERAL DRUG MONOGRAPH

GENERIC NAME
diphenhydramine

Effective Date: Dec 2012
Revised Date: Nov13-2013
Review Date: Mar 14 2018

CLASSIFICATION
Antihistamine

OTHER NAMES
Benadryl

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ADMINISTRATION POLICY:

IV Bolus - May be administered by a nurse
IV Intermittent - May be administered by a nurse
IM Injection - May be administered by a nurse
Subcutaneous - *Not recommended*

RECONSTITUTION/DILUTION/ADMINISTRATION:

Available as: 50 mg/mL - 1 mL vials

IV Bolus: Administer undiluted over 2 to 3 minutes

IV Intermittent: Dilute in 50 mL normal saline.
Administer over 15 to 30 minutes.

IM Injection: Inject undiluted deeply into a large muscle.

Subcutaneous: Not recommended due to pain at injection site and possible tissue necrosis

Maximum rate: 25 mg/minute
Maximum concentration: 50 mg/mL

DOSAGE:

Usual: 25 to 50 mg IV/IM every 4 to 6 hours

Maximum single dose: 100 mg
Maximum daily dose: 400 mg

STABILITY/COMPATIBILITY:

Stability of Diluted Solution: 24 hours at room temperature.

Compatibility: Compatible in normal saline, D5W, Lactated Ringer

PRECAUTIONS, POTENTIAL ADVERSE REACTIONS:

- Drowsiness, dizziness, confusion, irritability, blurred vision, urinary retention, dry mouth.

ADDITIONAL NOTES AND NURSING CONSIDERATIONS:

- Use in contraindicated in patients with narrow angle glaucoma, prostatic hypertrophy, stenosing peptic ulcer, pyloroduodenal or bladder-neck obstruction.
- May potentiate other CNS depressants such as hypnotics and sedatives.
- Elderly patients: may be more sensitive to hypotensive, sedative and anticholinergic effects.