



# REGIONAL PEDIATRIC PARENTERAL DRUG MONOGRAPH

GENERIC NAME

**diphenhydramine**

**Effective Date:** Jan14-2015

**Revised Date:**

CLASSIFICATION  
**Antihistamine**

OTHER NAMES  
**Benadryl**

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**ADMINISTRATION POLICY:**

- IV bolus - May be administered by a nurse
- IV Infusion - May be administered by a nurse
- IM Injection - May be administered by a nurse
- Subcut - Not recommended

**RECONSTITUTION/DILUTION/ADMINISTRATION:**

**Available as:** 50 mg/mL – 1 mL vial

**IV bolus:** administer undiluted over 3 to 5 minutes. Maximum 8 mg/minute.

**Intermittent:** dilute in convenient volume of compatible IV solution and infuse over 10 to 60 minutes.

**IV infusion:** dilute in compatible IV solution

**IM injection:** administer undiluted.

**DOSAGE:**

**Chemotherapy induced nausea & vomiting:**

IV, IM 0.25 to 1 mg/kg/dose every 4 to 6 hours as needed (maximum 100 mg/dose)  
Administer first dose 30 minutes prior to chemotherapy. May combine with metoclopramide to improve efficacy.

**Antihistamine:**

IV, IM 5 mg/kg/24 hours divided every 6 to 8 hours as needed (maximum 300 mg/24 hours)

Renal Impairment: no adjustment necessary

Hepatic Impairment: decrease dosing frequency in severe hepatic impairment

Obesity: no data

<b>Maximum concentration:</b>	IV bolus, IM	50 mg/mL	Infusion	50 mg/mL
	Intermittent	10 mg/mL	Infusion	1 to 5 mg/mL

**Maximum rate:** IV 0.5 mg/kg/minute

**STABILITY/COMPATIBILITY:**

**Stability:** 24 hours at room temperature after opening

**Stability of Final Admixture:** 24 hours at room temperature

**Compatibility:** Compatible with normal saline, D5W



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**POTENTIAL HAZARDS:**

- CV: palpitations, tachycardia, hypotension; with IV bolus: pallor, hypotension, weak pulse
- GI: anorexia, nausea, dry mouth
- Neuro: fever, drowsiness, dizziness, weakness, blurred vision, restlessness, paradoxical excitation (overdose) hallucinations, convulsions, death
- Renal: urinary retention
- Resp: chest tightness, thickened bronchial secretions, wheezing
- Local: flushing, pain at injection site; local necrosis with subcutaneous or intradermal administration
- Other: tingling of the hands; photosensitivity

**CAUTION:**

- patients with seizure disorders
- patients with glaucoma, urinary tract obstruction or peptic ulcer due to anticholinergic effects
- premature and term newborn infants

**CONTRAINDICATIONS:**

- acute asthma exacerbations