



Jackson Hole Fire/EMS Operations Manual

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Title: **Medication Protocol:
Ondansetron**

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ONDANSETRON (Zofran) (Medication Protocol)

EMT-INTERMEDIATE/AEMT

STANDING ORDER

PARAMEDIC

STANDING ORDER

CLASS: Antiemetic

PHARMACOLOGY/ ACTIONS: Ondansetron's mechanism of action has not been fully characterized. The released serotonin may stimulate the vagal afferents through the 5-HT 3 receptors and initiate the vomiting reflex. Ondansetron selectively antagonizes 5-HT3 receptors. *(Zofran has limited effectiveness for motion sickness, consider diphenhydramine (Benadryl) for refractive nausea/vomiting in those settings).*

ONSET/DURATION: Onset 30 minutes for peak effect / Duration: 5 – 7 hours

USE IN FIELD/ INDICATIONS:

- Nausea and vomiting prevention in adults and pediatrics
- Vertigo

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Hypersensitivity to drug/class (Kytril & Aloxi), gastric/abdominal surgery in pediatric patients

SIDE EFFECTS: Headache, dizziness, diarrhea, rash, agitation, prolonged QT interval

DRUG INTERACTIONS: Apomorphine, dronedarone

ROUTE: IV, IO, IM, SL (Oral Disintegrating Tablet)

DOSAGE:	ADULT	PEDIATRIC (<45 kg)
	4 mg slow IV, IO, IM, may repeat x1 prn continued symptoms (consider Benadryl for refractory nausea/vomiting) or 4-8 mg SL (oral disintegrating tablet) if IV dosing is not immediately available.	1-12 yrs: 0.1 mg/kg slow IV, IO, IM >12 yrs: use adult IV, IO, IM dosing or 4 mg SL (oral disintegrating tablet) if IV dosing is not immediately available over 4 years. Half oral disintegrating tablet (2 mg SL) 1 year to 4 years.
	May administer an additional 4 mg IV/IO if symptoms do not resolve following SL administration.	May administer additional IV/IO dose if symptoms do not resolve following SL administration.

PREGNANCY SAFETY: Category B – unproven or unknown risk to fetus. **Generally considered safe in pregnancy.**

COMMENTS: Consider early in patients with spinal immobilization to decrease risk of vomiting and aspiration.
Use caution in patients with severe liver disease, the dose should not exceed 8 mg in 24 hours.
Not commonly used in patients < 1 years of age.