



Jackson Hole Fire/EMS Operations Manual

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Title: **Medication Protocol:
Diphenhydramine**

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DIPHENHYDRAMINE (Benadryl) (Medication Protocol)

EMT-INTERMEDIATE PROVIDERS

STANDING ORDER

PARAMEDIC PROVIDERS

STANDING ORDER

CLASS: Antihistamine

**PHARMACOLOGY/
ACTIONS:** Antihistamines prevent the physiological actions of histamines by blocking H1 and H2 receptor sites.

ONSET/DURATION: Onset: Max effects 1-3 hr. / Duration: 6 – 12 hr.

**USE IN FIELD/
INDICATIONS:**

- Mild to severe allergic reactions
- Anaphylaxis
- Acute extrapyramidal (dystonic) reactions
- Nausea/vomiting related to motion sickness
- Vertigo

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Hypersensitivity, patients taking MOA inhibitors, narrow-angle glaucoma (relative), newborns and nursing mothers

SIDE EFFECTS: Drowsiness, disturbed coordination, hypotension, palpitations, tachycardia, bradycardia, thickening of bronchial secretions, dry mouth and throat, paradoxical excitement in children

DRUG INTERACTIONS: CNS depressants may increase depressant effects, MAO inhibitors may prolong and intensify anticholinergic effects.

ROUTE: IV, IO, IM

| DOSAGE: | ADULT | PEDIATRIC |
|---------|-------------------------|---|
| | 25-50 mg IM, slow IV/IO | <u>> 10 kg:</u> 1.25 mg/kg/dose IV, IM, IO |

PREGNANCY SAFETY: Category C – give only if potential benefits justifies risk to fetus

COMMENTS: Use caution in patients with CNS depression or lower respiratory diseases such as asthma