

GLENDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
EMT Program
EMT-B Drug Profiles

Rev. 10/06

METERED DOSE INHALER

Medication Name:	Albuterol, Metaproterenol, Isoetharine, Proventil®, Ventolin®, Metaprel®, Alupent®, Bronkometer®...
Indications:	(1) Exhibits signs and symptoms of breathing difficulty. (2) Patient has a physician-prescribed MDI. (3) EMT-B has received medical direction approval.
Contraindications:	(1) Patient is not responsive enough to use the MDI. (2) MDI is not prescribed for the patient. (3) Maximum dose allowed is reached prior to your arrival. (4) Permission denied by medical direction.
Dosage:	Each depression of the MDI delivers a precise dose. The number of times the medication can be delivered is determined by medical direction.
Actions:	Beta agonist, relaxes the bronchiole smooth muscles, dilates the lower airway.
Side Effects:	Tachycardia, tremors, shakiness, nervousness, dry mouth.

NITROGLYCERIN

Medication Name:	Nitroglycerin, Nitrostat®, Nitrobid®, Nitrolingual® Spray.
Indications:	(1) Patient exhibits signs and symptoms of chest pain. (2) Patient has physician-prescribed nitroglycerin, (3) EMT-B has approval from medical direction.
Contraindications:	(1) Baseline blood pressure below 100 mmHG systolic. (2) Suspected head injury. (3) Patient is a child or infant. (4) Three doses have already been taken.
Dosage:	One tablet or one spray under the tongue; may be repeated in 3 to 5 minutes if (1) patient experiences no relief. (2) Blood pressure remains above 100 mmHg systolic. (3) Medical direction gives approval.
Actions:	Relaxes blood vessels, decreased workload of the heart.
Side Effects:	Vessel dilation may cause headache, drop in blood pressure, pulse rate changes.

ORAL GLUCOSE

Medication Name:	Oral glucose, Glutose®, Insta glucose®
Indications:	(1) Altered mental status with, (2) history of diabetes controlled by medication and (3) ability to swallow the medication.
Contraindications:	(1) Unconscious (2) Unable to swallow the medication.
Dosage:	Typical dose is one tube.
Administration:	Oral, squeeze or place a portion between the cheek and gum.
Actions:	Increases blood and brain sugar levels.
Side Effects:	May cause an airway obstruction in the patient without a gag reflex.

ACTIVATED CHARCOAL

Medication Name:	Activated charcoal, SuperChar, InstaChar, Actidose, LiquiChar
Indications:	Patients who have ingested poisons by mouth, administer after receiving orders from medical direction or the poison control center.
Contraindications:	(1) Altered mental status (not fully conscious) (2) Swallowed acids or alkalis (3) Unable to swallow.
Dosage:	1 gram of activated charcoal per kilogram of body weight; usual adult dose 25 to 50 grams, infants and children 12.5 to 25 grams.
Actions:	Binds with poisons in the stomach and prevents their absorption into the body.
Side Effects:	Blackening of the stools, possible vomiting.

EPINEPHRINE AUTO-INJECTOR

Medication Name:	Epinephrine, Adrenalin, EpiPen®, EpiPen® Jr.
Indications:	(1) Signs and symptoms of a severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis). (2) Medication is prescribed to the patient. (3) EMT-B has received an order from medical direction.
Contraindications:	None, when used in the life-threatening allergic reaction.
Dosage:	Auto-injectors deliver a single dose, adult dose 0.3 mg, infant and child 0.15 mg.
Actions:	Mimics the response of the sympathetic nervous system: (1) Constricts blood vessels to improve the blood pressure. (2) Relaxes smooth muscles in the lungs to improve breathing. (3) Stimulates the heartbeats. (4) Reverses swelling and hives.
Side Effects:	Increased heart rate, pale skin (pallor), dizziness, chest pain, headache, nausea and vomiting, excitability and anxiousness.

ACETYLSALICYLIC ACID

Medication Name:	Aspirin, Bufferin, Anacin
Indications:	Chest pain suggestive of acute myocardial infarction
Contraindications:	Bleeding ulcer, hemorrhagic states, hemophilia
Dosage:	160-325 mg (2-4 pediatric chewable tablets of 81 mg each)
Actions:	Decreases platelet aggregation
Side Effects:	Use caution in patients with asthma