

Subject: Scope of Practice/Procedure – ALS
Diphenhydramine Hydrochloride

Associated Policies:

- I. Class
 - A. Antihistamine.
- II. Indications
 - A. Severe allergic reactions.
 - B. Anaphylactic shock.
 - C. Acute dystonic reactions. Phenothiazine extrapyramidal reaction.
 - D. Motion sickness.
- III. Therapeutic Effects
 - A. Relief of symptoms associated with histamine excess.
 - B. Sedative.
 - C. Relief of dystonic reactions from medications.
 - D. Prevention of motion sickness.
- IV. Contraindications
 - A. Absolute:
 - 1. Hypersensitivity.
 - 2. Acute asthma.
 - B. Relative:
 - 1. Presence of alcohol or other depressants.
- V. Adverse Effects
 - A. Dose-related drowsiness.
 - B. Hypotension.
 - C. Palpitations.
 - D. Tachycardia or Bradycardia.
 - E. Thickens bronchial secretions.
 - F. Can cause excitation in children.
- VI. Administration and Dosage
 - A. Adult:
 - 25-50 mg IV/IO slowly or IM.
 - B. Pediatric:
 - 1-2 mg/kg IV, IM or IO slowly.
- VII. Special Information
 - A. Adverse effects can increase with geriatric patients, use lowest dose in range.
 - B. When used to prevent motion sickness, use lowest dose in range.

Approved: 

Approved as to Form: 