

Emergency Medical Services Program Policies – Procedures – Protocols

Nausea/Vomiting (114)

| Adults | Pediatrics (13 years and under) |
|---|---|
| Public Safety First Aid Procedures: | Public Safety First Aid Procedures: |
| Support ABC'S Request ambulance transport Administer oxygen if patient has difficulty breathing | Support ABC'S Request ambulance transport Administer oxygen if patient has difficulty breathing |
| BLS Procedures: EMT's and Paramedics start here | BLS Procedures: EMT's and Paramedics start here |
| Primary assessment/ABC's Give oxygen only if SpO2 <94% or if in respiratory distress Transport to closest appropriate facility or ALS rendezvous Prepare to suction patient as indicated Inhaled isopropyl alcohol | Primary assessment/ABC's Give oxygen only if SpO2 <94% or if in respiratory distress Transport to closest appropriate facility or ALS rendezvous Prepare to suction patient as indicated |
| ALS Prior to Base Hospital Contact: Paramedics Only | ALS Prior to Base Hospital Contact: Paramedics Only |
| IV/monitor as needed Nausea/Vomiting present? Patient >4 years old? If yes, give Ondansetron 4 mg Oral Dissolving Tablet or May be given slow IV push over 1-2 minutes or IM. If no improvement may repeat Ondansetron every 10 minutes. MAX 12 mg. Is patient dehydrated? If yes, enter Shock/Hypoperfusion Protocol (124) | IV/monitor as needed Nausea/Vomiting present? Patient >4 years old? If yes give Ondansetron 4 mg Oral Dissolving Tablet or May be given slow IVP over 1-2 minutes or IM. MAX 4 mg. Is patient dehydrated? If yes, enter Shock/Hypoperfusion Protocol (124) |
| Base Hospital Contact Required | Base Hospital Contact Required |
| 114 NAUSEA/ VOMITING | |



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Special Considerations

- 1. Vomiting is a sign and symptom of illness or disease. Assess patient for potential illness or injury.
- 2. Inhaled isopropyl alcohol, have patient inhale through their nose with an alcohol prep pad below the nares.
- 3. Ondansetron (Ondansetron) is indicated for patients with nausea/vomiting. IV administration must be given over 1-2 minutes. **Rapid administration results in increased side effects and may result in a syncopal episode.**
- 4. Side effects include hypotension, dizziness, anaphylaxis, flushing, rash, headache, diarrhea, syncope, and QT prolongation.
- 5. Ondansetron (Ondansetron) is contraindicated in patients:
 - Less than 4 years of age
 - History of hypersensitivity to Ondansetron or similar medications (Dolasetron (Anzemet), Granisetron (Kytril), or Palonosetron (Aloxi).
 - Patients taking Apomorphine (Apokyn, Ixense, Spontane, Uprima) an injectable drug for Parkinson's disease and in rare cases used for erectile dysfunction.
 - Do not give oral tablet or solution to known Phenylketonurics (contains phenylalanine).
- 6. Oral disintegrating tablets can be placed on tongue and do not need to be chewed. Medication will dissolve and be swallowed with saliva. This is the preferred method of drug administration.
- 7. Ondansetron (Ondansetron) can be used in pregnancy and breast-feeding mothers.
- 8. Ondansetron (Ondansetron) may be used for nausea/vomiting associated with use of Morphine (see pain protocol).
- 9. Max dose of Ondansetron (Ondansetron) is 4mg for pediatrics and 12mg for adults, contact base hospital for further orders.