

## FORMULARY

### Diphenhydramine (Benadryl)

<b>Class of Drug</b>	Antihistamine, H-1 receptor antagonist.
<b>Mechanism of Action</b>	Competes with histamine for receptor sites in the body. Histamine is a naturally occurring byproduct of the amino acid histadine, and exerts inflammatory and vasodilatory effects on the body, as well as increasing gastrointestinal secretions. Histamine release may be inappropriately stimulated by the body's response to an allergen. Blocking the histamine receptor sites will decrease the effectiveness of histamine and therefore minimize the resultant symptoms.
<b>Indications</b>	Urticaria, angioedema, adjunct in anaphylaxis. Transfusion reactions. Dystonic reactions.
<b>Contraindications</b>	Hypersensitivity to drug or components. Newborn or premature infant. Breastfeeding.
<b>Adverse Effects</b>	Hypotension, wheezing, anticholinergic toxicity, convulsions, sedation, dizziness, dry mucous membranes and thickened secretions, blurred vision, paradoxical CNS stimulation, tachycardia, urinary retention, confusion, tremor, chest tightness, rash.
<b>Precautions</b>	Do not inject SC or intradermal.
<b>Dosing/Administration</b>	Benadryl for injection is available in 50 mg/mL vials. Adult: 25 – 50 mg slow IV/IO or deep IM, every 6 hours (max 300 mg/day). Pediatric: 1 mg/kg slow IV/IO deep IM every 6 – 8 hours (max 300 mg/day).
<b>Pregnancy Category</b>	<b>Class B</b> Presumed safety based on animal studies