

## FORMULARY

### Methylprednisolone (Solu-Medrol)

<b>Class of Drug</b>	Corticosteroid.
<b>Mechanism of Action</b>	Potent anti-inflammatory steroid synthesized in a laboratory. It has a greater anti-inflammatory potency than prednisolone and even less tendency than prednisolone to induce sodium and water retention.
<b>Indications</b>	Bronchoconstriction as a result of asthma, COPD or anaphylaxis.
<b>Contraindications</b>	Known hypersensitivity to drug or components. Use is contraindicated in premature infants. Should not be given in presence of systemic fungal infections.
<b>Adverse Effects</b>	Fluid Disturbances: Sodium retention, potassium loss, fluid retention, hypokalemic alkalosis, CHF in susceptible patients, hypertension. Musculoskeletal: Muscle weakness, loss of muscle mass, pathologic fracture of long bones, osteoporosis, vertebral compression fractures. Gastrointestinal: Peptic ulcer with possible perforation and hemorrhage, pancreatitis, and abdominal distention. Dermatologic: Impaired wound healing, increased sweating, petechiae, and thin fragile skin. Neurological: Increased ICP, vertigo, convulsions, headache. Endocrine: Menstrual irregularities, suppression of growth in children, increased requirements for insulin, manifestation of diabetes mellitus.
<b>Precautions</b>	Use cautiously in patients with renal disease, GI ulceration, osteoporosis, hypertension, diabetes, hypothyroidism, liver disease, diverticulitis, ulcerative colitis, emotional instability, ocular herpes simplex.
<b>Dosing/Administration</b>	Adult: 125-250mg IV/IO/IM Pediatric: 1-2mg/kg IV/IO/IM, max of 125mg
<b>Pregnancy Category</b>	Class C, Uncertain safety – animal studies show adverse effect but no human studies exist