

**Classification**

Antiemetic

**LA County Prehospital Indications**

Multiple provider impressions: Nausea and/or vomiting, or prior to fentanyl or morphine administration to reduce potential for nausea/ vomiting

**Other Common Indications (Not authorized for EMS administration in LA County)**

None

**Adult Dose**

**4 mg ODT/IV/IM**, may repeat x1 in 15 min prn

**Pediatric Dose**

**4 mg ODT**, only for 4 years of age or older

**Mechanism of Action**

Mechanism of action has not been fully characterized but believed to function via serotonin antagonism at central and/or peripheral receptors. Serotonin receptors of the 5-HT<sub>3</sub> type are present both peripherally on vagal nerve terminals and centrally in the chemoreceptor trigger zone of the area of the medullary structure that controls vomiting.

**Pharmacokinetics**

Onset is 1-5 min; duration is 4-6 hr

**Contraindications**

Known allergy to Ondansetron  
Pregnancy, regardless of gestational age

**Interactions**

Amiodarone and other QT prolonging drugs (additive prolongation of QT may produce torsade de pointes/polymorphic ventricular tachycardia)

**Adverse Effects**

Constipation  
Headache  
QT prolongation  
Sedation

**Prehospital Considerations**

- May cause prolonged QT interval. Caution in patients with known prolonged QT syndrome or recent/simultaneous use of other QT-prolonging drugs.
- Should not be administered in patients known to be pregnant, regardless of gestational age.
- Peak activity is decreased by approximately 40% in oral administration, compared to IV, due to first pass metabolism in the liver.