

Section: Drug Reference
Subject: ATROPINE
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Page 1 of 1

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Atropine

1. CLASSIFICATION
 - a. Parasympatholytic
2. ACTIONS / DESCRIPTIONS
 - a. Receptors found in GI and pulmonary smooth muscle, the heart, and the eye
 - b. Blocked vagal effects results in positive chronotropic and positive dromotropic (limited or no inotropic effect)
 - c. Does not block the actions of acetylcholine at the neuromuscular junction
 - d. Inhibits salivary and bronchial secretions, dilates pupils
3. INDICATIONS
 - a. Hemodynamically significant bradycardia / high degree blocks
 - b. Organophosphate poisoning (drug of choice)
 - c. During RSI to decrease secretions and bradycardia in children
4. CONTRAINDICATIONS
 - a. Known allergy to drug
5. PRECAUTIONS
 - a. Watch for signs and symptoms of glaucoma
 - i. Ocular pain
 - ii. Headache
 - iii. Blurred vision
6. ADVERSE REACTIONS
 - a. Tachycardia (increases M_vO_2)
 - b. Paradoxical bradycardia (pushed slowly at a dose less than 0.5 mg)
 - c. Palpitations
 - d. Dysrhythmias
 - e. Flushed and dry skin
 - f. Dry mouth/nose
 - g. Dilated pupils, blurred vision, and photophobia