

Pharmacologic Action — Endogenous catecholamine, acting on both dopaminergic and adrenergic neurons. Low dose stimulates mainly dopaminergic receptors, producing renal and mesenteric vasodilation; higher dose stimulates both beta-1-adrenergic and dopaminergic receptors, producing cardiac stimulation and renal vasodilation; large dose stimulates alpha-adrenergic receptors

Indications — As a pressor agent used in the management of shock

Contraindications — Hypersensitivity to dopamine, pheochromocytoma, ventricular fibrillation, uncorrected tachyarrhythmias

WARNING: Dopamine is a vesicant and can cause severe tissue damage if extravasation occurs

Droperidol

Name — Inapsine®

Class — Antiemetic agents; antipsychotic

Pharmacologic Action — Antiemesis: dopamine receptor blockade in brain, predominantly dopamine-2 receptor. When reuptake is prevented, a strong antidopaminergic, antiserotonergic response occurs. Droperidol reduces motor activity, anxiety, and causes sedation; also possesses adrenergic blocking, antifibrillatory, antihistaminic, and anticonvulsive properties

Indications — For use in the patient with acute delirium or psychosis

Contraindications — Hypersensitivity, known or suspected prolonged QT interval; QTc interval greater than 450 msec in females or greater than 440 msec in males

WARNING: Use with caution in patients with bradycardia, cardiac disease, concurrent MAO inhibitor therapy, Class I and Class III dysrhythmics or other drugs that prolong the QT interval and cause electrolyte disturbances due to its adverse cardiovascular effects, e.g., QT prolongation, hypotension, tachycardia, and torsades de pointes

Epinephrine

Name — EpiPen®, TwinJect®, Adrenaclick®, Auvi-Q, Adrenalin®, AsthmaNefrin®, Vaponefrin®

Class — Alpha/beta adrenergic agonist

Pharmacologic Action — Strong alpha-adrenergic effects, which cause an increase in cardiac output and heart rate, a decrease in renal perfusion and peripheral vascular resistance, and a variable effect on BP, resulting in systemic vasoconstriction and increased vascular permeability. Strong beta-1- and moderate beta-2-adrenergic effects, resulting in bronchial smooth muscle relaxation

Secondary relaxation effect on smooth muscle of stomach, intestine, uterus, and urinary bladder

Indications — For use in the management of patients suffering anaphylaxis, shock, cardiac arrest, bradycardia, or in the nebulized form for croup/bronchiolitis and IM form for refractory acute asthma

Contraindications — Hypersensitivity, cardiac dilatation and coronary insufficiency

Famotidine

Name — Pepcid®

Class — Histamine H2 antagonist

Pharmacologic Action — Blocks H2 receptors of gastric parietal cells, leading to inhibition of gastric secretions

Indications — For the management of gastric or duodenal ulcers, gastroesophageal reflux, as an adjunct in the treatment of urticarial and/or pruritus in patients suffering from allergic reaction

Contraindications — Hypersensitivity to famotidine or other H2-receptor antagonists

Fentanyl

Name — Currently only available in the generic form (formerly Sublimaze®)

Class — Synthetic opioid, opioid analgesics