

EPINEPHRINE

Used by Combat Medics

Sympathomimetic catecholamine (adrenaline analog)

For emergency treatment of anaphylaxis or allergic reactions.

DOSAGE(S):

0.3 mg (3 ml of 1:1000 solution), repeated every 5 to 10 minutes as necessary

ROUTE(S):

IM, subcutaneous

CONTRA-INDICATIONS:

None

POTENTIAL SIDE EFFECTS:

Anxiety, restlessness, tremor, weakness, dizziness, sweating, palpitations, pallor, nausea and vomiting, headache, disorientation, tachycardia

DRUG INTERACTIONS:

Antihypertensives reduce the pressor effects of epinephrine, thyroid hormones, antihistamines and some anti-arrhythmic medications increase its arrhythmogenic effects

ONSET/PEAK/DURATION: 15-30 sec (IM<subcutaneous)/20 sec-4 min/5-10 min

TACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS: Standard EpiPens deliver the recommended 0.3 mg IM dose. Casualties in hemorrhagic shock have poor tissue perfusion to their extremities reducing the delivery of epinephrine; use large muscle groups closest to the torso (in order of preference: thigh > deltoid > gluteal).

