



## 10. DEXAMETHASONE

### a) Indications

- (1) Moderate to severe asthma exacerbation
- (2) Croup
- (3) Anaphylaxis (**NEW '19**)

### b) Adverse Effects

- (1) Headache
- (2) Edema
- (3) Vertigo
- (4) Fluid retention
- (5) Adrenal insufficiency and immunosuppression with long-term use
- (6) HTN
- (7) CHF
- (8) Nausea and vomiting
- (9) Dyspepsia
- (10) Anaphylaxis

### c) Precautions

- (1) Caution with diabetes
- (2) Known TB
- (3) Osteoporosis
- (4) Hepatic impairment
- (5) CHF
- (6) Seizure disorder

### d) Contraindications

- (1) Hypersensitivity to drug
- (2) Known systemic fungal infection
- (3) Premature infants

### e) Dosage (IV solution used for PO administration)

- (1) Adult: 10 mg IV (preferred, if established) or PO
- (2) Pediatric:
  - (a) Asthma: 0.5 mg/kg PO (preferred) or IV to a maximum of 10 mg
  - (b) Croup: 0.5 mg/kg PO/IM/IV to a maximum of 10 mg