

CLASS A: Respiratory Distress

PROTOCOLS USED IN: Respiratory Distress, Hyperkalemia and Crush Injury

PHARMACOLOGY AND ACTIONS:

Albuterol is a potent, relatively selective Beta-2 adrenergic bronchodilator and is associated with relaxation of bronchial smooth muscle. The onset of improvement in pulmonary function is within 2 – 15 minutes after the initiation of treatment and the duration of action is from 4 – 6 hours. Albuterol has occasional Beta-1 overlap with clinically significant cardiac effects.

INDICATIONS:

- A. Acute reactive airway including asthma and COPD in exacerbation
- B. Known or suspected hyperkalemia

PRECAUTIONS:

- A. Monitor on telemetry when feasible for arrhythmia

SIDE EFFECTS AND NOTES:

Clinically significant arrhythmias may occur, especially in patients with underlying cardiovascular disorders such as coronary insufficiency and hypertension.

ADULT DOSING:**Respiratory distress -**

2.5 mg via nebulizer. Repeat as needed.

Hyperkalemia -

10 mg via nebulizer

PEDIATRIC DOSING:

Same as adult