



**GENERIC NAME:
METHYLPREDNISOLONE SODIUM
SUCCINATE**

BRAND NAME: Solu-Medrol

CLASS: corticosteroid, glucocorticoid, steroid, anti-inflammatory

Mechanism of Action:

Enters target cells and causes many complex reactions that are responsible for its anti-inflammatory and immunosuppressive effects; thought to stabilize cellular and intracellular membranes.

Indications and Field Use:

Reactive airway disease: Acute exacerbation of emphysema, chronic bronchitis, asthma Anaphylaxis Burns potentially involving the airway

** Acute spinal cord trauma (large loading and maintenance doses) Contraindications:

Preterm infants Adverse Reactions:

None from single dose

NOTES ON ADMINISTRATION

Incompatibilities/Drug Interactions: None

Adult Dosage:

Reactive Airway Disease, Anaphylaxis, Burns Potentially Involving the Airway

Usual dose 125 mg slow IV bolus (much larger doses can be used). ** Acute Spinal Cord Trauma: Should be within 6 hours of insult and patient meeting

criteria, initial bolus dose of 30 mg/kg IV administered over 15 minutes; bolus followed by a 45 minute rest period, then a 23-hour continuous infusion of 5.4 mg/kg/hr. See: Special Notes.

Pediatric Dosage:

Reactive Airway Disease, Anaphylaxis, Burns Potentially Involving the Airway

2-4 mg/kg slow IV bolus

Routes of Administration:

IV bolus

Onset of Action:

1 - 6 hours; dogmatic 6 hour time to onset of benefit has decreased markedly during the last few years

Peak Effects:

8 hours

Duration of Action:

18-36 hours

Dosage Forms/Packaging:

125 mg/1 ml, 500 mg/4 ml, 1 Gm/8 ml mix-a-vial 2 Gm vial with diluent

Arizona Drug Box Supply Range:

PARAMEDIC: 1 - 2 125 mg/2 ml mix-a-vial ** Optional: additional training requirement for Spinal Cord Trauma

(2 Gm x 1, 1 Gm x 1, 500 mg x 1, 125 mg x 1)

INTERMEDIATE: 1 - 2 125 mg/2 ml mix-a-vial ** Optional: additional training requirement for Spinal Cord Trauma

(2 Gm x 1, 1 Gm x 1, 500 mg x 1, 125 mg x 1)

Special Notes:

- > Use for spinal cord trauma is limited to prehospital providers that have completed a special training curriculum in accordance with their medical control authorities. Proper administration of methylprednisolone for spinal cord trauma is imperative.
- > Infusions: An infusion pump is required for continuous infusions of corticosteroids during interfacility transports; a minimum of microdrip tubing is required for field use if administering loading dose

therapy for spinal cord trauma.

** Indicates special training requirement