

GENERIC NAME: RACEMIC EPINEPHRINE

Brand Name

CLASS: sympathomimetic

Mechanism of Action:

Alpha-receptor stimulation: causes vasoconstriction, which results in reduction of mucosal and submucosal edema
Beta-receptor stimulation: bronchodilation, reduction in airway smooth muscle spasm

Indications

(interfacility use only):

Croup
Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease, Chronic Bronchitis, Bronchiolitis, Bronchial Asthma, and other peripheral airway disease

Contraindications:

- Allergy to any of the ingredients (may contain sulfites)
- Coronary Artery Disease/Insufficiency
- Arrhythmias
- Epiglottitis
- Hypertension
Adverse Reactions: • Tachycardia • Dysrhythmias • Headache • Nausea • Palpitations • Angina

NOTES ON ADMINISTRATION

Incompatibilities/Drug Interactions: May potentiate other sympathomimetics MAO inhibitors – may cause hypertensive crisis Alpha-adrenergic blockers – may cause hypotension

This is the Arizona Department of Health Services' recommendation for the use of this drug in the prehospital setting.

Adult Dosage/Pediatric Dosage:

0.5 mL (2.25%) in 2.5 to 4.5 mL normal saline via nebulizer

Routes of Administration:

Inhaled via small volume nebulizer

Onset of Action:

Within 5 minutes

Duration of Action:

1 to 3 hours

Dosage Forms/Packaging:

2.25% solutions

Special Notes:

If heart rate increases by more than 20 beats per minute from initial rate, discontinue use. Closely monitor vital signs – may produce tachycardia, other dysrhythmias, and hypertension. Excessive use may cause bronchospasm.

