

ATROPINE SULFATE

PHARMACOLOGY & ACTIONS:

- Muscarine-cholinergic blocking agent
- Increases heart rate by blocking vagal response
- Increases conduction through A-V node & increases ventricular sensitivity to atrial impulses.
- Reduces motility & tone of GI tract.
- Reduces action & tone of bladder which may cause urinary retention.
- Dilates pupils.

INDICATIONS:

- Symptomatic bradycardias, 2nd & 3rd degree heart blocks and pacemaker failure.
- Organophosphate and nerve gas poisoning
- Bradysystolic and asystolic arrests including PEA

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- Atrial fibrillation and flutter
- Glaucoma

ADMINISTRATION:

- Symptomatic bradycardia :
 - Adult dose: 0.5-1.0 mg IV push, repeat if needed in 3-5 minute intervals to a maximum dose of .03-.04 mg/kg
 - Pediatric dose: 0.01-0.02 mg/kg
- Asystole & PEA:
 - Adult dose: 1.0 mg IV push, repeated if needed in 3-5 minute intervals to a maximum dose of 0.03-0.04 mg/kg.
 - Pediatric dose: 0.01-0.02 mg/kg

SIDE EFFECTS & SPECIAL NOTES:

- Do not treat bradycardia unless there are signs of poor perfusion (chest pain, low blood pressure, altered mental status.)
- In organophosphate poisoning, massive doses of 10-20 mg or more may be needed.
- Titrate dose by watching patient response.

CLASS: **A**

PROTOCOL(S) USED IN: **ACLS, Poisoning; Organophosphates**