

# DIPHENHYDRAMINE (Benadryl®)

## PHARMACOLOGY & ACTIONS:

- Antihistamine which blocks action of histamines released from cells during an allergic reaction.
- Direct CNS effects, which include stimulant or, more commonly, depressant depending on individual variation.
- Anticholinergic

## INDICATIONS:

- Allergic reaction
- Acute dystonic reactions to antipsychotic drugs
- Adjunctive therapy for anaphylaxis

## CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- Pregnant or lactating females - relative contraindication

## ADMINISTRATION:

- Adult dose: 25-50 mg slow IV push
- Pediatric dose: 1-2 mg/kg slow IV or IO push

## SIDE EFFECTS & SPECIAL NOTES:

- Sedation, blurred vision, anticholinergic effects
- May have enhance effects of alcohol or other depressants
- Is NOT the first line drug for allergic reactions

CLASS: A

PROTOCOL(S) USED IN: Anaphylaxis, Psychiatric Disorders