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| Medication: Ipratropium Bromide | PDN: 6945.04 | Last Updated: August 9 2023 | PMD: Andrew Travers* | PDC: Tanya Fraser* | Page 1 of 2 |
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IPRATROPIUM BROMIDE (Atrovent)

1.0 Classification

- Anticholinergic
- Parasympatholytic

2.0 Mechanism of Action

- Causes bronchodilation and dries respiratory tract secretions by blocking acetylcholine receptors.

3.0 Indications

- Shortness of breath with signs of bronchospasm (e.g., wheezes, EtCO₂ changes indicative of bronchospasm, etc.)

4.0 Contraindications

- Known hypersensitivity
- Bladder neck obstruction
- Acute narrow (closed) angle glaucoma

5.0 Precautions

- Make every effort to avoid getting the spray or mist into the patient's eyes.

6.0 Routes

- May be given by metered dose inhaler (MDI)
- MDI can be administered via CPAP or BVM utilizing either a built in MDI port or an MDI adapter.

7.0 Dosage

Adult

- MDI: 4 puffs with MDI q 20 minutes, up to 3 doses.
 - Each dose should be approximately 30 seconds apart to allow canister to recharge.

Pediatric

- Not routinely administered to pediatric patients (under 16 years of age) in the out of hospital environment.

8.0 Supplied

- Metered dose inhaler (canister with plastic inhaler device)
 - 20 mcg per metered dose (puff)

9.0 May Be Given By

- PCP/ICP/ACP/CCP

10.0 Adverse Effects

- Tachycardia, palpitations
- Headache
- Dizziness
- Anxiety
- Nausea/vomiting
- Blurred vision

11.0 Special Notes

- A spacer (holding chamber) should be used when administering by MDI directly to the patient (i.e., when not administered through the MDI adapter or port).
- 2 puffs are equivalent to approximately a 250 mcg nebulizer.
- Atrovent is most commonly given in conjunction with a beta-agonist.
- If a patient has access to an MDI in the home, use the patient's own supply.
- Pregnancy category B [if there is a clinical need for it, Category B drugs are considered safe to use]

12.0 References

- Adult Respiratory Distress Clinical Practice Guideline
- Compendium of Pharmaceuticals and Specialties (CPS)
- Atrovent HFA drug monograph

*Electronically Signed
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