1.0 Classification
   • Parasympatholytic
   • Anticholinergic

2.0 Mechanism of Action
   • Increased sinus node automaticity
   • Increased A-V conduction

3.0 Indications
   • Symptomatic or hemodynamically unstable bradycardia
   • Organophosphate poisoning

4.0 Contraindications
   • Hypothermic bradycardia
   • Acute narrow (closed) angle glaucoma

5.0 Precautions
   • May cause tachycardia and increase myocardial ischemia; use with caution in patients with ischemic chest pain
   • In 2° (Type II) or 3° blocks with wide QRS complexes, atropine may not be effective
   • Underdosing may result in paradoxical slowing of the heart

6.0 Route
   • May be given IV/IO

7.0 Dosage
   Adult
   • For bradycardia: 0.5 mg every 3-5 minutes as needed (maximum total dose of 0.04 mg/kg or 3 mg)
   • For organophosphate poisoning: 2-4 mg repeated every 20 minutes until muscarinic symptoms reverse

   Pediatric
   • For bradycardia: 0.02 mg/kg (minimum dose 0.1 mg; maximum single dose 0.5 mg). Dose may be repeated once. Maximum total dose for child is 1 mg and 3 mg for an adolescent.
   • For organophosphate poisoning:
     • Less than 12 years of age: 0.02-0.05 mg/kg initially, repeated every 20-30 minutes until muscarinic symptoms reverse.
     • 12 years of age and over: 2 mg initially then 1-2 mg every 20-30 minutes until muscarinic symptoms reverse.

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1  Muscarinic symptoms can include included in the acronym SLUDGE (salivation, lacrimation, urination, diarrhea, gastrointestinal distress and emesis) as well as bradycardia, bronchorrhea, and bronchospasm.
8.0 **Supplied**
   - 1 mg in 10 mL preloaded syringe

9.0 **May Be Given By**
   - ACP/CCP
   - ICP on order from Clinical Support Paramedic

10.0 **Adverse effects**
   - Rebound tachycardia
   - Drowsiness
   - Confusion
   - Blurred vision

11.0 **Special notes**
   - Atropine will cause pupil dilation
   - Pregnancy category C [if the patient will benefit from a Category C drug, it is generally used]

12.0 **References**
   - Adult Arrhythmia Clinical Practice Guideline
   - Toxicological Emergencies Clinical Practice Guideline
   - Compendium of Pharmaceuticals and Specialties (CPS)

*Electronically Signed
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