

## EPHEDRINE

**Class:** Alpha-/Beta- Agonist

### **Indications:**

Treatment of nasal congestion, anesthesia-induced hypotension.

Unlabeled use: Postoperative nausea and vomiting (PONV) refractory to traditional antiemetics; idiopathic orthostatic hypotension

### **Available dosage form in the hospital:**

-EPHEDRIN HCL 30MG/ML AMP

### **Dosage:**

**-Hypotension induced by anesthesia:** I.V.: 5-25 mg/dose slow I.V. push repeated after 5-10 minutes as needed, then every 3-4 hours (maximum: 150 mg/24 hours)

**-Idiopathic orthostatic hypotension (unlabeled use):** Oral: 25-50 mg 3 times/day; maximum: 150 mg/day. **Note:** Not considered first-line for this indication.

**-PONV refractory to traditional antiemetics (unlabeled use):** I.M.: 0.5 mg/kg at the end of surgery.

### **Geriatric**

Refer to adult dosing.

### **Common side effect:**

Frequency not defined.

Cardiovascular: Arrhythmias, chest pain, elevation or depression of blood pressure, hypertension, palpitation, tachycardia, unusual pallor

Central nervous system: Agitation, anxiety, apprehension, CNS stimulating effects, dizziness, excitation, fear, headache hyperactivity, insomnia, irritability, nervousness, restlessness, tension

Gastrointestinal: Anorexia, GI upset, nausea, vomiting, xerostomia

Genitourinary: Painful urination

Neuromuscular & skeletal: Trembling, tremor (more common in the elderly), and weakness

Respiratory: Dyspnea

Miscellaneous: Diaphoresis increased

**Pregnancy Risk Factor:** C