

**ORANGE COUNTY EMS
PARAMEDIC PHARMACOLOGY HANDBOOK**

MEDICATION: DIPHENHYDRAMINE (Benadryl)	ADULT DOSE	PEDIATRIC DOSE	SIDE EFFECTS	PRECAUTIONS/COMMENTS
<p>CLASSIFICATION: Antihistamine</p> <p>MECHANISM OF ACTION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antagonizes effects of histamine by blocking histamine receptors. • Decreases itching, edema, bronchoconstriction and vasodilation. <p>INDICATIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute allergic reaction. • Anaphylaxis. • Extrapyramidal side effects—dystonic reactions. <p>DOSAGE FORM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 mg/mL, 1 mL prefilled syringe • 50 mg/mL vial 	<p>Allergic reactions (mild – acute)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 mg IM or IVP. <p>Anaphylaxis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 mg IM or IVP. <p>Extrapyramidal side effects – dystonic reactions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 – 50 mg IM or IVP. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 mg/kg IM or IVP. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drowsiness • Dry mouth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diphenhydramine potentiates other CNS depressants.

