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## Haldol Fact Sheet

**Brand name: HALDOL**

**Generic name: HALOPERIDOL**

**Classification:** Anxiolytic Agent

**Description:**

- (1) An effective anxiolytic agent. Effective in the management of aggressive and violent patients.
- (2) Also has anti-emetic properties useful in the management of severe nausea and vomiting.
- (3) Weak anticholinergic (atropine-like) and alpha-blocking agent (vasodilation).
- (4) Onset of action is within 10 minutes of the IM administration.

**Indications:** Chemical restraint for violent, agitated, and aggressive patients who present a danger to themselves or to others and who cannot be safely managed otherwise. NOTE: Most violent/agitated patients can be handled with verbal or physical restraint alone.

**Contraindications:** Known hypersensitivity to medication or similar; Children under 6 years of age; Parkinson's disease; CNS depression; Suspected head injury.

**Side Effects:** Extrapyramidal symptoms ((Dystonic reaction) - Administer Diphenhydramine 50 mg IV/IM); Hypotension and tachycardia are common (20-25%) but usually self-limiting side effects. Fluid challenge is indicated with a significant drop in blood pressure or hypotension.

**Precautions:** Violent patients should be physically restrained while the medication is administered; May mask subsequent evaluation.

**Dose:** Adult: 5 mg slow IV or IM