



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