

SODIUM BICARBONATE EMSAC JULY 2024

ACTION: Alkalinizing Agent

- Acts as a buffering agent when administered to neutralize hydrogen ions resulting in carbon dioxide as a byproduct.
- Alkalinization of blood results in shifting of potassium into the intracellular space, lowering serum potassium levels.

INDICATIONS:

- Known or suspected hyperkalemia
- Cardiac arrests associated with tricyclic antidepressants or hyperkalemia
- Crush syndrome

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- None

POTENTIAL SIDE EFFECTS:

- Hypotension
- Headache and flushing
- Syncope
- Fluid overload
- Tachycardia
- Alkalosis

ADULT DOSE/ROUTE:

- ⇒ Suspected Hyperkalemia: 50mEq IV/IO one time dose
- ⇒ QRS widening(QRS>100) from Tricyclic Antidepressant Overdose: 50mEq IV/IO. Repeat q 5 min until ECG changes improve (QRS<100) and/or to a total of 150 mEq.
- ⇒ Crush Syndrome: 50mEq IV/IO push immediately prior to extrication

PEDIATRIC DOSE/ROUTE:

- ⇒ Suspected Hyperkalemia: 1mEq/kg (max 50mEq) IV/IO one time dose
- ⇒ QRS widening from Tricyclic Antidepressant: 1mEq/kg IV/IO, up to a max of 50mEq per dose. Repeat q5 min until ECG changes improve (QRS<100) and/or to a total of 150 mEq. ⇒ If <2 years, dilute bicarb 1:1 with sterile water.

NOTES:

- IV lines should be flushed thoroughly Thorough 20 cc IV/IO flush before administration of other medications to avoid precipitation.