



Yolo County Emergency Medical Services Agency

Quick Reference

Revised Date: December 14, 2018

Medication Profile

Sodium Bicarbonate

Class:

Alkalotic agent
Electrolyte

Action:

Sodium bicarbonate reacts with hydrogen ions (H⁺) to form water and carbon dioxide and acts by buffering metabolic acids present in the body during and after severe hypoxia and/or inadequate tissue perfusion.

Onset: Immediate

Peak: Immediate

Duration: Unknown

Indications:

Crush injury
Tricyclic OD with cardiac response

Contraindications:

Hypersensitivity/allergy
Liver Disease or complications (e.g.
Transplant)

Side Effects:

CNS: Dizziness, headache, irritability, twitching, weakness, brain cell injury, seizures
RESP: Pulmonary edema, hypoventilation
GI: Gastric distention, anorexia, cramps, nausea, vomiting
GU: Renal calculi, impaired renal function, dehydration
MS: Muscle cramps, pain, tetany
INTEG: Tissue sloughing at injection site with extravasation

Notes:

- Correct dosage is essential to avoid overcompensation of pH abnormalities.
- Monitor ABCs during administration.
- Flush IV line before and after administration of other medications.

This document is not a substitute for Protocols and Procedures.

Effective Date: January 1, 2019

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