

EMERGENCY DRUGS IN THE DENTAL PRACTICE

Drug	Indication	Adult Dose & Route	Paediatric Dose & Route
Adrenaline	Anaphylaxis	500 micrograms (0.5 mls 1:1000) IM May be repeated at 5 min intervals if no improvement	<6 yrs: 150 micrograms (0.15 mls 1:1000) IM 6-12 yrs: 300 micrograms (0.3 mls 1:1000) IM >12 yrs: 500 micrograms (0.5 mls 1:1000) IM May be repeated at 5 min intervals if no improvement
Aspirin	Suspected heart attack	300 mg oral (crushed or chewed)	N/A
Glucagon	Hypoglycaemia (patient unable to swallow safely e.g. unconscious)	1 mg IM	<8 yrs (or <25 kg): 0.5 mg IM >8yrs (or >25 kg): 1 mg IM
Glucose (fast acting)	Hypoglycaemia (patient co-operative & able to swallow safely)	15-20g fast acting glucose e.g. 3-4 glucose tablets, glass of orange juice or glucose gel	Dose as for adults
Glyceryl Trinitrate Spray	Angina or suspected heart attack	2 actuations sublingually	N/A
Midazolam	Prolonged convulsive seizures (≥ 5 minutes) or repeated seizures (≥ 3 in an hour)	Midazolam oromucosal solution can be given by the buccal route in adults as a single dose of 10 mg [unlicensed]	1-5 years: 5mg buccal 5-10 years: 7.5mg buccal > 10 years: 10mg buccal
Short acting beta agonist (e.g. salbutamol) inhaler	Asthma attack	2 actuations inhaled Use spacer device if necessary Repeated doses may be necessary	Dose as for adults

References

British Heart Foundation (2015) **Heart Attack** www.bhf.org.uk accessed 1 May 2015

British Medical Association & the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain (2015) **Prescribing in dental practice** <http://www.evidence.nhs.uk/formulary/bnf> accessed 1 July 2015

Diabetes UK (2015) **Hypoglycaemia** www.diabetes.org.uk accessed 1 May 2015

Jevon P (2013) **Medical Emergencies in the Dental Practice 2nd Ed** Wiley Blackwell, Oxford

NICE (2015) **Treating prolonged or repeated seizures and convulsive status epilepticus** <http://pathways.nice.org.uk/pathways/epilepsy> accessed 1 July 2015

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Further information is also available from the British Dental Association at www.bda.org/medicalemergencies

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