

# Dexamethasone

<b><u>Generic Name:</u></b>	<b><u>Brand Name:</u></b>	<b><u>Drug Class:</u></b>
Dexamethasone Sodium Phosphate	Decadron, Hexadrol	Corticosteroid
<b><u>Mechanism of Action:</u></b>	<b><u>Time to Onset:</u></b>	<b><u>Duration of Effects:</u></b>
Decreases permeability of capillary membrane, suppresses migration of neutrophils	Within 30 minutes	24-72 hours
<b><u>Indications:</u></b>	<b><u>Contraindications:</u></b>	<b><u>Possible Side Effects:</u></b>
Respiratory distress secondary to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anaphylaxis</li> <li>• Asthma/COPD/Croup</li> </ul> Spinal cord injury Cerebral edema	Use caution in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cirrhosis</li> <li>• Pregnancy</li> <li>• Suppressed immune systems</li> <li>• Untreated infections</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hypertension</li> <li>• Convulsions</li> <li>• Headache</li> <li>• CHF</li> <li>• Insomnia</li> </ul>
<b><u>Administration Route:</u></b>	<b><u>Adult dose:</u></b>	<b><u>Pediatric dose:</u></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IV</li> <li>• IO</li> <li>• IM</li> </ul>	10 mg over 2 minutes	0.5 mg/kg (max 10)
Administering this medication too quickly can cause perineal pruritis.		