




Jackson Hole Fire/EMS Operations Manual

Approved by: 
Mike Moyer (Nov 24, 2025 13:26:31 MST)
Mike Moyer, Fire Chief

Approved by: *Will Smith, MD*
Will Smith, MD (Nov 24, 2025 09:28:57 MST)
Will Smith, MD, Medical Director

Title: **Medication
Protocol:**
Division: **Dexamethasone**
Article: 17.1.39
Revised: November 2025
Pages: 1

DEXAMETHASONE (DECADRON) (Medication Protocol)

PARAMEDIC PROVIDERS

STANDING ORDER

CLASS: Glucocorticoid

**PHARMACOLOGY/
ACTIONS:** Long-acting synthetic steroid that suppresses acute and chronic inflammation

ONSET/DURATION: Onset: 1 Hour / Duration: 72 hours

**USE IN FIELD/
INDICATIONS:**

- Severe asthma exacerbation
- Anaphylaxis
- Emergency treatment of AMS, HACE, HAPE
- Adult/Pediatric Respiratory Emergencies (with suspected inflammatory component such as COPD, croup)

**RELATIVE
CONTRAINDICATIONS:** Diabetes, Hypertension, Ulcers, Severe infection

SIDE EFFECTS:

- Hypertension, headache, edema, hyperglycemia, nausea, heartburn
- Possible Psychic disturbances with rapid IV push

DRUG INTERACTIONS: May inhibit antibody response to vaccines and toxoids

ROUTE: IV/IO, IM

DOSAGE:

ADULT – 10 mg

PEDIATRIC (< 45 kg) – 0.6 mg/kg (max. 10 mg)

PREGNANCY SAFETY: Category C: give only if potential benefits justify risk to fetus