

MEDICATION REFERENCE LIST

DEXMEDETOMIDINE HYDROCHLORIDE (PRECEDEX)

1. Classification: Selective alpha2-adrenergic agonist with sedative properties
2. Physiologic Effect: centrally acting, α 2-adrenergic agonist which exerts its physiologic effects by activation of specific receptors throughout the central nervous system thereby producing its sedation, anxiolysis and analgesia.
3. Major Indications:
 - 3.1. sedation of initially intubated and mechanically ventilated patients
4. Primary Contraindications:
 - 4.1. Caution should be exercised when administering Precedex to patients with advanced heart block and/or severe ventricular dysfunction.
 - 4.2. Because Precedex decreases sympathetic nervous system activity, hypotension and/or bradycardia may be expected to be more pronounced in patients with hypovolemia, diabetes mellitus, or chronic hypertension and in elderly patients.
5. Side Effects:
 - 5.1. hypotension
 - 5.2. bradycardia
 - 5.3. sinus arrest
 - 5.4. transient hypertension
6. Additional information:
 - 6.1. A loading infusion of Precedex 0.5 mcg/kg, 1 mcg/kg, or 2 mcg/kg is administered over 10 minutes and followed by a maintenance infusion started at 0.6 mcg/kg/hr. The maintenance infusion could be titrated from 0.2 mcg/kg/hr to 1 mcg/kg/hr to achieve the targeted sedation.