

MEDICATION REFERENCE LIST

PHENOBARBITAL (SOLFOTON, LUMINAL)

1. Classification: barbiturate
2. Physiologic Effect: increases the activity of the inhibitory neurotransmitter GABA
3. Major Indications:
 - 3.1. Seizures (more commonly pediatric seizures)
 - 3.2. Status epilepticus
 - 3.3. Alcohol and benzodiazepine detoxification
 - 3.4. Cyclic vomiting syndrome
4. Primary Contraindications:
 - 4.1. Acute intermittent porphyria
 - 4.2. hypersensitivity to any barbiturate
 - 4.3. prior dependence on barbiturates
 - 4.4. severe respiratory insufficiency
 - 4.5. hyperkinesia in children
5. Side Effects:
 - 5.1. decreased level of consciousness, drowsiness, dizziness
 - 5.2. bradypnea
 - 5.3. headache
 - 5.4. excitement or increased activity (especially in children)
 - 5.5. nausea, vomiting
6. Additional information:
 - 6.1. Typically used after benzodiazepines and phenytoin fail to abort status epilepticus
 - 6.2. Usual adult dose for status epilepticus is 15-18 mg/kg IV loading dose infused at 25-60 mg/min; prepare to support ventilation; may repeat in 20-minute intervals PRN; not to exceed 30 mg/kg