

Adenosine (ADENOCARD®)

Class: Antiarrhythmic

Actions: Slows conduction time through AV node; can interrupt re-entrant pathways through the AV node.

Rx: Conversion of supraventricular tachycardias, including those caused by Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome.

Contra: 2° or 3° AV block, VT, sick sinus syndrome.

SE: Transient dysrhythmias, facial flushing, dyspnea, chest pressure, hypotension, headache, nausea, bronchospasm.

Dosage: 6 mg (2 ml) given rapidly through a proximal IV site followed by a 20 ml saline flush. If no effect in 1-2 min, give 12 mg rapidly with saline flush. May repeat 12 mg bolus one more time (maximum 30 mg total).

Peds: 0.1 mg/kg up to 6 mg. May be repeated twice at 0.2 mg/kg up to 12 mg each.

Notes: Short half-life (<10 seconds) limits side effects. Adenosine is blocked by theophyllines; but potentiated by dipyridamole (Persantine), carbamazepine (Tegretol)

Supplied in SVMCA Drug Box: 6 mg/2 ml vials