

1058 pseudoephedrine

SIDE EFFECTS

CV: Hypotension, bradycardia, **circulatory collapse**, capillary leak

GI: Nausea, vomiting

HEMA: Bleeding, heparin rebound (cardiac surgery)

INTEG: *Rash*, dermatitis, urticaria

RESP: Dyspnea, **pulmonary edema**, **severe respiratory distress**, bronchospasm

SYST: **Anaphylaxis**, **angioedema**

PHARMACOKINETICS

IV: Onset 5 min, duration 2 hr, half-life unknown

NURSING CONSIDERATIONS

Assess:

- **Bleeding: 30 min to 18 hr after dose in cardiac surgery**

Black Box Warning: Hypersensitivity:

urticaria, cough, wheezing, have emergency equipment nearby; allergy to fish; use with caution; men who have had vasectomies may be more prone to hypersensitivity, also high doses

- Blood studies (Hct, platelets, occult blood in stools)
- Coagulation tests (aPTT, ACT) 15 min after dose, then again after several hours
- VS, B/P, pulse after 30 min, then 3 hr after dose
- Skin rash, urticaria, dermatitis
- **Pregnancy/breastfeeding:** use only if clearly needed; cautious use in breastfeeding

Evaluate:

- Therapeutic response: reversal of heparin overdose

Teach patient/family:

- **Not to take if allergic to fish**
- The purpose of product, expected result
- To avoid activities in which bleeding may occur—shaving, use of hard-bristle toothbrush, injections, rectal temperature—until risk for bleeding has passed

pseudoephedrine (OTC, Rx)

(soo-doh-eh-fed'rin)

Eltor , Nasofed, Sudafed, Sudafed 24 Hour, Sudogest

Func. class.: Adrenergic

Chem. class.: Substituted phenylethylamine

Controlled Substance Schedule V

Do not confuse:

Sudafed/sotalol

ACTION: Primary activity through α -effects on respiratory mucosal membranes reducing congestion, hyperemia, edema; minimal bronchodilation secondary to β -effects

USES: Nasal decongestant, adjunct for otitis media; with antihistamines

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Hypersensitivity to sympathomimetics, closed-angle glaucoma

Precautions: Pregnancy, breastfeeding, cardiac disorders, hyperthyroidism, diabetes mellitus, prostatic hypertrophy, hypertension, child <4 yr

DOSAGE AND ROUTES

Adult and child >12 yr: **PO** 60 mg q6hr;

EXT REL 120 mg q12hr or 240 mg q24hr

Geriatric: **PO** 30-60 mg q6hr prn

Child 6-12 yr: **PO** 30 mg q6hr, max 120 mg/day

Child 4-6 yr: **PO** 15 mg q6hr, max 60 mg/day

Available forms: Ext rel caps 120, 240 mg; oral sol 15 mg, 30 mg/5 mL; tabs 30, 60 mg; ext rel tabs 120, 240 mg

Administer:

- Avoid taking at or near bedtime; stimulation can occur
- OTC preparations require an ID for sale; tracked, Schedule V

SIDE EFFECTS

CNS: *Tremors*, *anxiety*, stimulation, insomnia, headache, dizziness, hallucinations, **seizures** (geriatric patients)