Decadron - Pediatric Only

MEDICATION

THE DRUG

Drug: Dexamethasone (named in the page's own diagram)

Class: Corticosteroid

How it works: Binds the glucocorticoid receptor — inhibits pro-inflammatory signals, promotes anti-inflammatory signals

USE IT FOR

- Asthma
- Croup
- Pediatric only — age <13

DON'T GIVE / CAUTION

- Contraindication: hypersensitivity
- Precautions: none in the emergency setting (per page)

DOSE

Adult: **[dose not stated in original text]**

Peds: **Neb: under 1 year — 4 mg; 1-13 years — 8 mg. IV/Oral: 0.1 mg/kg**

Repeat: **[dose not stated in original text]**

WATCH FOR

- Nausea/vomiting
- Anxiety, tremors, dizziness, headache
- Hyperglycemia
- Hypokalemia

PEARLS

- Onset and peak vary by route (per page)

Take Home Message:

For asthmatic and croup kids under 13: neb 4 mg (under 1 year) or 8 mg (ages 1-13), or 0.1 mg/kg IV/oral.