

Why?

Primatene® MIST containing EPINEPHrine in a multidose inhaler format from Amphastar Pharmaceuticals has been permitted by Health Canada to be sourced from the USA as a substitute for nebulized EPINEPHrine during the COVID-19 pandemic to avoid aerosolization



What?

Primatene® MIST has **160 metered sprays** releasing **125 mcg (0.125 mg) of EPINEPHrine per actuation**. There is a mechanical counter window that advances every 10 actuations but the window is labelled in increments of 20. The window shows red when 20 or fewer actuations remain.

Who?

Role of the team members

Prescriber: to order medication, to obtain & document verbal consent prior to use
RN/RRT: to administer med and monitor according to monograph. RRT can assist with any troubleshooting and support as needed
Pharmacy: ensure appropriate labels attached and AcuDose screen has been updated to remind that verbal consent is required

When & Where?

There are only 3 indications, patients with:

Croup/Bronchiolitis, airway edema, or post-extubation stridor.

- **It is not indicated for use in patients with asthma**
- **Inhaler is for hospital use ONLY** (mandated by Health Canada)

Suggested dosing:

- **Pediatric:** Croup/Bronchiolitis: 5 puffs (0.625 mg total dose) every 10 minutes as needed, up to 15 puffs in 1 hour. **Pediatric Emergency Department:** use studied by Dr. Kam and Dr. Eltorki via a prospective study. Each inhaler will have an attached data collection form to be completed by RN/RRT.

Adult & Pediatric: Post-Extubation Stridor/Laryngeal Edema: 4 puffs (0.5 mg total dose) X 1. Repeat X1 if needed. Max 8 puffs.

How?

Directions for Use

Before first time use, shake vigorously and spray into the air 4 times.

For subsequent inhalations, shake, spray into air once, then give dose.

Puffer needs to be sprayed into air before each inhalation. Wait 1 minute between inhalations, then repeat. Give with spacer and/or mask.

Prescriber to obtain and document verbal consent on order prior to use

“EPINEPHrine is a drug available in Canada and is commonly given as a liquid mist inhalation (nebulized format) in respiratory conditions. Extra precautions during Covid-19 have required a change in drug format for EPINEPHrine to a multidose inhaler for safety. Primatene Mist (EPINEPHrine in an puffer format) is currently available only in the US . It has been released to Canadian Hospitals for use by Health Canada. Do you agree/consent to us using this medication as part of your treatment plan for yourself/your child or family member?”