



Jackson Hole Fire/EMS Operations Manual

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Title: **Medication Protocol:
Ondansetron**
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ONDANSETRON (Zofran) (Medication Protocol)

EMT-INTERMEDIATE/AEMT

IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THIS MEDICATION MAY BE ADMINISTERED ONLY AFTER VOICE AUTHORIZATION HAS BEEN GRANTED EITHER BY A WYOMING LICENSED PHYSICIAN OR A PHYSICIAN SUPPORT PERSON (PA) ACTING AS THE AGENT OF A WYOMING LICENSED PHYSICIAN, OR BY A WYOMING LICENSED REGISTERED NURSE; RELAYING THE AUTHORIZATION FROM A WYOMING LICENSED PHYSICIAN WITH WHOM THE NURSE HAS DIRECT COMMUNICATIONS VIA RADIO OR TELEPHONE.

PARAMEDIC

STANDING ORDER

CLASS: Antiemetic

**PHARMACOLOGY/
ACTIONS:** Ondansetron's mechanism of action has not been fully characterized. The released serotonin may stimulate the vagal afferents through the 5-HT₃ receptors and initiate the vomiting reflex. Ondansetron selectively antagonizes 5-HT₃ receptors. (*Zofran has limited effectiveness for motion sickness, consider diphenhydramine (Benadryl) for refractive nausea/vomiting in those settings*).

ONSET/DURATION: Onset 30 minutes for peak effect / Duration: 5 – 7 hours

**USE IN FIELD/
INDICATIONS:**

- Nausea and vomiting prevention in adults and pediatrics
- Vertigo

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Hypersensitivity to drug/class (Kytril & Aloxi), gastric/abdominal surgery in pediatric patients

SIDE EFFECTS: Headache, dizziness, diarrhea, rash, agitation, prolonged QT interval

DRUG INTERACTIONS: Apomorphine, dronedarone

ROUTE: IV, IO, IM, SL (oral disintegrating tablet)

DOSAGE:**ADULT****PEDIATRIC (<45 kg)**

4 mg slow IV, IO, IM, may repeat x1 prn continued symptoms (consider Benadryl for refractor nausea/vomiting)

or 4-8 mg SL (oral disintegrating tablet) if IV dosing is not immediately available.

May administer an additional 4 mg IV/IO if symptoms do not resolve following SL administration.

1-12 yrs: 0.1 mg/kg slow IV, IO, IM
>12 yrs use adult IV, IO, IM dosing

or 4 mg SL (oral disintegrating tablet) if IV dosing is not immediately available over 4 years. Half oral disintegrating tablet (2 mg SL) 1 year to 4 years.

May administer additional IV/IO dose if symptoms do not resolve following SL administration.

PREGNANCY SAFETY: Category B – unproven or unknown risk to fetus. **Generally considered safe in pregnancy.**

COMMENTS: Consider early in patients with spinal immobilization to decrease risk of vomiting and aspiration.
Use caution in patients with severe liver disease, the dose should not exceed 8 mg in 24 hours.
Not commonly used in patients < 1 yrs of age.