

HEALTHEAST MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION
MEDICAL OPERATIONS MANUAL

ASPIRIN

Drug Classification: NSAID, Antiplatelet

BACKGROUND

Pharmacodynamics

Prevents the formation of a chemical known as thromboxane A₂, which causes platelets to clump together, or aggregate, and form plugs that cause obstruction or constriction of small coronary arteries.

Indications

- Suspected cardiac ischemia

Contraindications

- Allergy to aspirin and/or other NSAIDS (Advil, Aleve)
- Active GI bleeding or bleeding ulcers.
- Aortic dissection

Cautions

- Recent internal bleeding (within last 3 months).
- Known bleeding disorders.
- Renal or Hepatic impairment.

DOSAGE and ADMINISTRATION

1. Instruct the patient to chew then swallow 4 tablets (324 mg).

ADVERSE REACTIONS/SIDE EFFECTS

- Nausea and Vomiting
- Abdominal pain, constipation, diarrhea
- Tinnitus or dizziness

NOTES

¹ Administer aspirin to all patients with suspected cardiac ischemia unless they took 324 mg shortly before EMS arrival. This includes patients that are not currently complaining of chest discomfort.

REFERENCE GUIDELINE:

2A Chest Pain/Acute Coronary Syndrome