

PROPOFOL (Diprivan)

Drug Classification: General Anesthetic

BACKGROUND

Pharmacodynamics

Propofol (Diprivan) binds to GABAA receptors in the central nervous system. These receptors, once blocked, are known to cause a reduction in anxiety and also induce sleep. **Propofol (Diprivan)** is known to bind to these sites and in sufficient quantities can induce a dreamless, near coma-like state in those given the drug.

Indications

- Intravenous anesthetic agent used for induction and maintenance of general anesthesia. IV administration of **propofol (Diprivan)** is used to induce unconsciousness in addition to continued use for management of intubated and mechanically ventilated patients.

Contraindications

- Hypotension
- Allergies to eggs, egg products, soybeans or soy products.

Cautions

- Bradycardia, hypotension, hypertension, decreased cardiac output may result from administration. Monitor blood pressure, pulse rate, and level of sedation for evidence of side-effects
- Elderly patients are greater risk of adverse effects due to higher peak levels. Reduce loading and continuous doses by 50%.

DOSAGE and ADMINISTRATION

ADULT	PEDIATRICS (less than 60 kg)
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. If patient not currently on propofol (Diprivan) administer 1-2 mg/kg¹ by delivering 20-40 mg every 10 seconds until desired level of sedation is achieved.2. Initiate propofol (Diprivan) infusion at 5 mcg/kg/min² and increase by 5-10 mcg/kg/min every 5-10 minutes until desired level of sedation is achieved. 150 mcg/kg/min maximum approved infusion. Decrease infusion in the event of hypotension³.3. Supplement sedation with midazolam (Versed) and fentanyl (Sublimaze) as needed.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. If patient not currently on propofol (Diprivan) administer 2-3 mcg/kg¹ by delivering 20-40 mg every 10 seconds until desired level of sedation is achieved.2. Initiate propofol (Diprivan) infusion at 5 mcg/kg/min² and increase by 5-10 mcg/kg/min every 5-10 minutes until desired level of sedation is achieved. 150 mcg/kg/min maximum approved infusion. Decrease infusion in the event of hypotension³.3. Supplement sedation with midazolam (Versed) and fentanyl (Sublimaze) as needed.

