**H44. Racemic Epinephrine**

**Class and Action:** Sympathomimetic; stimulates alpha and beta receptors. May cause rapid increase in BP, ventricular contractility and heart rate. Causes vasoconstriction in the cutaneous arterioles, mucosa, and spleen. Antagonizes histamine.

**Indications:** Acute allergic reaction, acute asthma attack, croup (laryngotracheobronchitis), laryngeal edema

**Contraindications:** Hypersensitivity (unlikely), hypovolemia, coronary insufficiency.

**Side Effects:** dysrhythmias, tachycardia

**Drug Interactions:** MAO inhibitors and bretylium may potentiate the effect of epinephrine, beta antagonists may blunt response, can be deactivated by alkaline solutions such as sodium bicarb and furosemide.

**Onset, Duration, and Routes:** Onset is 1-2 minutes for nebulized treatment

**Adult Dose:**
- Contact medical control

**Pediatric Dose:**
- Croup - 0.5 ml of 2.25 % Racemic Epinephrine mixed with 2.5 ml of Normal Saline nebulized

**WDM EMS Protocols:**
D7. Pediatric - Respiratory Distress

**Special Considerations:**