Medication Formulary

**Generic Name:** Dexamethasone

**Brand Name:** Decadron

**Class:** Glucocorticoid

**Actions:** A synthetic steroid that suppresses acute and chronic inflammation. Potentiates smooth muscle relaxation by βeta adrenergic agonists, and may alter airway hyperactivity.

**Onset:** 4-8 hours

**Duration:** 24-72 hours

**Indications:** Anaphylactic reactions, endocrine, rheumatic, hematologic disorders, asthma unresponsive to bronchodilators, shock and spinal cord injuries

**Contraindications:** GI bleed, hypersensitivity, and severe infection

**Side Effects:** GI bleeding, and hypertension.

**Interactions:** May blunt the effects of diabetic medications. Barbiturates & phenytoin can decrease dexamethasone effects.

**Administration Routes:** IV, IM