SEDATING ANTIHISTAMINES
diphenhydramine HCL (Benadryl®), hydroxyzine HCL (Atarax®)

INDICATIONS

| 1) Anxiety | 3) Parkinsonism and other EPS |
| 2) Aggression and agitation | 4) Insomnia |

PRECAUTIONS TO CONSIDER

Contraindications

Absolute:
1) Delirium
2) Anticholinergic intoxication

Relative:
1) Nursing mothers
2) Renal impairment
3) Hepatic impairment
4) Elderly, debilitated patients
5) Lower respiratory tract symptoms (asthma)
6) Diseases states where increased anticholinergic activity may complicate disease course (narrow-angle glaucoma, benign prostatic hypertrophy)

Precautions
1) Photosensitivity
2) Respiratory impairment

Pregnancy and Breast-Feeding
FDA Pregnancy Category B (diphenhydramine), Category C (hydroxyzine)

Drug Interactions of Major Significance
1) Concomitant use of monoamine oxidase (MAO) inhibitors

Age-Specific Considerations
1) May cause excitability in children, elderly and persons with developmental disabilities

Side Effects Which Require Medical Attention
1) Worsening confusion or agitation
2) Somnolence
3) Nausea
4) Headache
5) Dizziness or lightheadedness

PATIENT MONITORING

Patient Monitoring Parameters
1) Pregnancy Test - as clinically indicated

Dosing
See DSHS/DADS Drug Formulary for dosage guidelines.
Exceptions to maximum dosage must be justified as per medication rule.