

ENDOTRACHEAL DRUG ADMINISTRATION

If an endotracheal tube has been placed and venous access is delayed, the following drugs may be administered via the endotracheal tube:

Table 2.2: NAVEL drugs

N	Narcan
A	Atropine
V	Versed
E	Epinephrine
L	Lidocaine

ADULT:

Medications should be administered at 2x the recommended IV dose and should be diluted to a total of 10 ml with normal saline or distilled water. Endotracheal absorption is greater with distilled water than with normal saline, but distilled water has a more negative effect on PaO₂. A catheter should be passed beyond the tip of the endotracheal tube, at which point chest compressions should be stopped. The drug solution should be sprayed quickly down the endotracheal tube, and several quick insufflations should be administered to aerosolize the medication and hasten absorption. Chest compressions should be withheld during these insufflations.

PEDIATRICS:

The same medications can be administered via the endotracheal tube in pediatric patients. However, the pediatric endotracheal dose of **epinephrine** is tenfold greater or 0.1 mg/kg. In order to avoid high volumes, the 1:1 000 solution should be used for this dose by diluting it to a total of 3 ml with normal saline.