

## Role of Magnesium Sulfate in Status Asthmaticus

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Despite many pediatricians avoid using Magnesium Sulfate in Status Asthmaticus because of its adverse effects, but in the practice, it proved being having a dramatic effect in the control of the severe bronchospasm in Status Asthmaticus.

Asthma is a chronic inflammatory disorder of the airways that is characterized by changing and persistent symptoms, airway obstruction, inflammation, and hyperresponsiveness. An asthma exacerbation occurs when symptoms are uncontrolled, causing shortness of breath, coughing, and wheezing. Less severe exacerbations can be managed at home; however, more severe exacerbations warrant an emergency department visit and possibly a hospital admission. Exacerbations may be life-threatening.

Magnesium sulfate is a bronchodilator. It relaxes the bronchial muscles and expands the airways, allowing more air to flow in and out of the lungs. This can relieve symptoms of asthma, such as shortness of breath.

Some rare side effects may happen, that include: heart disturbances, poor reflexes, confusion, weakness, flushing or sweating.

Status Asthmaticus should be managed aggressively by short acting bronchodilators inhalations and steroids injections, but the addition of the Magnesium Sulfate in the early stages, improves the response fast and effectively and of course should be considered immediately in refractory patients with impending respiratory failure.

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