



## Idaho Project for Children and Youth with Deaf-Blindness Fact Sheet

### OCULAR SIDE EFFECTS OF NECESSARY MEDICATIONS

#### **Phenobarbital (CNS depressant, anti-convulsant)**

- Pronounced or abnormal dilation or constriction of pupils
- Increased reaction to light
- Nystagmus, jerky pursuit movements, random ocular movements
- Decreased vision
- Constriction of visual fields, scotomas (blind spots)
- Visual hallucinations
- Color vision disturbance
- Dermatitis conjunctivitis

#### **Dilantin (Prophylaxis and treatment of chronic epilepsy)**

- Nystagmus
- Decreased vision
- Pronounced or abnormal dilation or constriction of pupils
- Paralysis of extraocular muscles
- Visual hallucinations
- Esotropia (inward turning of the eyes)
- Conjunctivitis - may be allergic

Fact sheets from the Idaho Project for Children and Youth with Deaf-Blindness (IPCYDB) are to be used by both families and Professionals serving individuals with dual-sensory impairments. The information applies to students 0-22 years of age. The purpose of the fact sheet is to give general information on a specific topic. More information for an individual student can be provided through individualized technical assistance available for IPCYDB. This fact sheet is a starting point for further information.

If you would like more information, please contact the Idaho Project for Children and Youth with Deaf-Blindness.

Robin G. Greenfield, Ph. D.  
Project Director  
322 East Front Street, Suite 440  
Boise, Idaho 83702

**Phone: 208-364-4012**

**E-mail: [rgreen@uidaho.edu](mailto:rgreen@uidaho.edu)**



Center on Disabilities and Human Development  
College of Education