To be used in critically ill patients with adrenal insufficiency identified as follows:

- Patients in severe stress (hypotension, hypoxia, shock, etc) with random serum cortisol levels less than 25 mcg/dl

If the patient has a random cortisol level greater than or equal to 25 mcg/dl this indicates an appropriate stress response and steroid protocol is not indicated. If stress dose steroids are indicated, one of the following regimens is appropriate at the discretion of the attending physician:

- **48 hour regimen**
  Hydrocortisone 100 mg IV every 8 hours, scheduled for 48 hours
  Recheck random cortisol level 8 hours after last dose

OR

- **5 day regimen (with 6 day wean)**
  Hydrocortisone 100 mg IV every 8 hours scheduled for 5 days, then
  Hydrocortisone 100 mg IV every 12 hours scheduled for 2 days, then
  Hydrocortisone 50 mg IV every 12 hours scheduled for 2 days, then
  Hydrocortisone 50 mg IV every 24 hours scheduled for 2 days, then discontinue