

Subject: Scope of Practice/Procedure – ALS Local Optional Scope
Furosemide (Lasix)

Associated Policies: 6502, 6503, 6531

- I. Class
 - A. Diuretic.
- II. Indications
 - A. Severe Congestive Heart Failure (CHF) with previous history, **and:**
 - 1. Patient transport time is anticipated to exceed 45 minutes,
 - 2. The use of nitrites and CPAP mask device have not resulted in patient improvement,
 - 3. The patient has a **history** of CHF and is currently prescribed **medication(s)** consistent with that history,
 - 4. The patient is NOT taking (a) bronchodilator(s),
 - 5. The patient is **afebrile**,
 - 6. The patient is **normotensive** or **hypertensive**,
- III. Therapeutic Effect
 - A. Stimulates kidneys to excrete water, salt and potassium which lead to decreased circulating blood volume.
 - B. Produces vasodilatation.
 - C. Very potent with slow onset of 30-120 minutes.
- IV. Contraindications
 - A. Absolute:
 - 1. Dehydration.
 - 2. Pregnancy.
 - 3. Suspected or know infectious, drug related or non-cardiac causes of Congestive Heart Failure.
- V. Adverse Effects
 - A. Cardiac dysrhythmias.
 - B. Transient hypotension.
 - C. Nausea and vomiting.
 - D. Dehydration.
- VI. Administration and Dosage
 - A. Adult:
 - 1. 20 mg slow IV over 1-2 minutes initial dose for patient not currently prescribed Lasix.
 - 2. 40 mg slow IV over 1- 2 minutes initial dose for patients currently taking Lasix.
 - Additional dosing requires Verbal Base Order.
- VII. Special Information
 - A. Sulfonamide sensitive persons may develop an allergic reaction.

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VIII. ONLY TO BE USED BY PROVIDER AGENCIES WITH PRIOR NORTH COAST EMS APPROVAL. ALL USES OF FUROSIMIDE MUST BE REVIEWED BY THE PROVIDER QIP LIASION AND BASE HOSPITAL PCNC.

Approved: 

Approved as to Form: 