

Subject: Scope of Practice/Procedure - ALS  
Nitroglycerine (NTG)

Associated Policies:

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- I. Class
  - A. Nitrate.
  
- II. Indications
  - A. Chest pain of suspected cardiac origin.
  - B. Acute CHF/Pulmonary edema.
  
- III. Therapeutic Effects
  - A. Peripheral vasodilatation and decreased pre-load.
  - B. Decreases myocardial workload and oxygen demand.
  
- IV. Contraindications
  - A. Absolute:
    1. Hypersensitivity.
    2. Patients less than 12 years old.
    3. Cerebral hemorrhage.
    4. Head injury.
  - B. Relative:
    1. Blood pressure less than 90 systolic.
    2. Avoid use in the presence of the Acute Inferior MI can cause hypotension. Consider Morphine or Fentanyl for pain control.
  
- V. Adverse Effects
  - A. Transient hypotension and dizziness.
  - B. Temporary pulsating headache.
  - C. Facial flushing and burning under the tongue.
  - D. Weakness and nausea.
  
- VI. Administration and Dosage
  - A. Cardiac Chest pain:
    1. Sublingual Only: 0.4 mg (1/150 gr.) tablets or metered-dose spray; repeat every 3-5 minutes if discomfort is unrelieved and systolic blood pressure remains greater than 90.
  - B. Acute Pulmonary Edema:
    1. Systolic blood pressure greater than 90: Sublingual 0.4mg.
    2. Systolic blood pressure greater than 140: Sublingual 0.8mg.
    3. Systolic blood pressure greater than 180: Sublingual 1.2mg.May repeat every 3-5 minutes if blood pressure remains greater than 90 systolic.


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Special Information

- A. Age increases hypotensive response.
- B. If hypotension occurs, place patient low fowlers or supine if tolerated.  
Consider small fluid boluses (150-200cc) titrated to blood pressure if hypotension persists after 3 - 5 minutes.
- C. Should not be administered if erectile dysfunction drugs have been used in the previous 24 hours.

Approved:  Date: 10-2-19

Approved as to Form: Z. Karstadt Date: 10-1-19