

NITROGLYCERIN

PHARMACOLOGY & ACTIONS:

- Vasodilator
- Decreases peripheral resistance
- Generalized smooth muscle relaxation
- Reduces venous tone

INDICATIONS:

- Chest, arm, neck pain thought to be related to coronary ischemia
- Angina
- Control of hypertension in angina or acute MI
- Pulmonary edema

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- Hypotension
- Hypovolemia
- ICP
- Aortic stenosis
- Severe bradycardia or tachycardia
- Use of any phosphodiesterase inhibitors for erectile dysfunction or pulmonary HTN within 24 hours (See Chest Pain/ Acute Coronary Syndrome and/or CHF Protocol)

ADMINISTRATION:

- Adult dose: .4 mg SL in spray or tablet form
 - dose may be doubled if patient uses NTG chronically
 - may be repeated every 3-5 minutes up to three doses
- NTG IV 5 mcg/min: Titrate to effect

SIDE EFFECTS & SPECIAL NOTES:

- Headache, flushing, dizziness, and burning under the tongue
- Hypotension; IV line should be established prior to administration

- Reflex tachycardia
- Syncope
- May be effective in relieving chest pain due to esophageal spasm
- Therapeutic effect is enhanced but adverse effects are increased when patient is upright.
- NTG loses potency easily; should be stored in dark glass container with tight lid and not exposed to heat.

CLASS: A

PROTOCOL(S) USED IN: ACLS, Chest Pain