FOR CRITICAL CARE TRANSFERS ONLY

ACTIONS

Nitroglycerin is a direct vasodilator, which acts principally on the venous system although it also produces direct coronary artery vasodilation as a result.

There is a decrease in venous return, which decreases the workload on the heart and thus, decreases myocardial oxygen demand.

Sublingual nitroglycerin is readily absorbed. Pain relief occurs within one to two minutes and therapeutic effects can last up to 30 minutes.

INDICATIONS

1. Chest pain or discomfort associated with suspected AMI or Angina Pectoris.

2. Pulmonary edema with hypertension.

3. Used when continued effects of Nitroglycerin are desired.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Patients with increased intracranial pressure, systolic <100 mm Hg, children under 12.

ADVERSE REACTIONS AND SIDE EFFECTS

CNS: Headache, dizziness, flushing, nausea and vomiting.

Cardiovascular: Hypotension, reflex tachycardia.
PRECAUTIONS

Nitroglycerin infusion must be protected from light. Cover IV bag as well as IV tubing.

DOSAGE

Adult: Mix 5 mg in 100 ml of D5W (glass bottle) and run infusion @ 5-20 mcg/min. and titrate to effect.

NOTES

Mix 5 mg in 100 ml of D5W (glass bottle)

Concentration = 50 mcg/ml

Dosage: 5-20 mcg/min

Using a microdrip (60 gtt/ml):

- 6 gtt/min = 5 mcg/min
- 7 gtt/min = 6 mcg/min
- 8 gtt/min = 7 mcg/min
- 10 gtt/min = 8 mcg/min
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