ARGININE VASOPRESSIN (VASOPRESSIN)

Escambia County, Florida - ALS/BLS Medical Protocol

ACTIONS

Vasopressin is the naturally occurring antidiuretic hormone.

In unnaturally high dose (much higher than those needed for antidiuretic hormone effects) vasopressin acts as a non-adrenergic peripheral vasoconstrictor. Vasopressin acts by direct stimulation of smooth muscle V1 receptors.

In recent studies, after a short duration of ventricular fibrillation, vasopressin during CPR increased coronary perfusion pressure, vital organ blood flow, ventricular fibrillation median frequency, and cerebral oxygen delivery.

INDICATIONS

Vasopressin is indicated for one dose only in cardiac arrest to replace either the 1st or 2nd dose of epinephrine.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

None in cardiac arrest.

PRECAUTIONS

None in cardiac arrest.

ADVERSE REACTIONS AND SIDE EFFECTS

None in cardiac arrest.
DOSAGE

Adult: **ONE DOSE ONLY** (40 units IV/IO push) to replace either the 1\(^{st}\) or 2\(^{nd}\) dose of epinephrine during cardiac arrest. Epinephrine can be administered every 3 to 5 minutes during cardiac arrest.