



Yolo County Emergency Medical Services Agency

Quick Reference

Revised Date: June 1, 2023

Medication Profile

Nitroglycerin
(Nitrostat, Nitrobid)

Class:

Antianginal
Vasodilator

Action:

Dilation of vascular smooth muscle.
Decrease peripheral arterial resistance (afterload).
Decrease in venous blood return (preload).
Decrease BP and workload on the heart with decreased O₂ demand.
Redistribution of coronary blood flow (dilation) improving the supply of O₂ to the hypoxic area through collateral coronary vessels.

Onset: 1-5 minutes

Peak: 1-5 minutes

Duration: 10-60 minutes

Indications:

CHF/Pulmonary edema

Contraindications:

Hypersensitivity/allergy
Increased intracranial pressure
Hypotension
Patients that have taken erectile dysfunction medications within the past 24-hours. May encounter patients taking similar medications for pulmonary hypertension. (Viagra, Cialis, Levitra, stendra, staxyn, sildenafil, avanafil, tadalafil, vardenafil).

Side Effects:

CV: Postural hypotension, tachycardia, CV collapse
CNS: Headache, dizziness, flushing, vertigo, weakness
GI: Nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain
INTEG: Pallor, sweating, rash, flushing

Notes:

- Protect from light, heat and moisture.
- Recheck BP after each administration.

This document is not a substitute for Protocols and Procedures.

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