Reference: 4000.1 Effective: 2023 Review: 2025 Page: 1 of 1

FORMULARY

Diltiazem (Cardizem)

Class of Drug	Calcium Channel Blocker
Mechanism of Action	Blocks influx of calcium ions into cardiac muscle
	Arterial and venous vasodilator
	Reduces pre-load and afterload
	Reduces myocardial oxygen demand
Indications	Atrial flutter / atrial fibrillation with rapid ventricular rates
Contraindications	Wide complex tachycardia
	Sick sinus syndrome
	Cardiogenic shock
Adverse Effects	Bradycardia, second or third-degree AV blocks, chest pain, CHF,
	syncope, V-fib, V-tach, nausea, vomiting, dizziness, dry mouth,
	dyspnea, headache.
Precautions	Use with caution in patients with renal or hepatic dysfunction
Dosing/Administration	Adult:
	Initial Bolus: 0.25 mg/kg (average dose 20 mg) IV/IO over 2 minutes.
	If inadequate response, may re-bolus in 15 minutes: 0.35 mg/kg IV/IO over 2 minutes.
	Continuous Infusion: 5-15 mg/hr if patient responds well to bolus
	Pediatric:
	Not recommended
Pregnancy Category	Class C Uncertain safety – animal studies show adverse effect but no human studies exist