

FORMULARY

Nitroglycerin (Nitrostat)

Class of Drug	Nitrate
Mechanism of Action	Relaxes vascular smooth muscle both in venous and arterial beds causing a decrease in myocardial oxygen consumption, reduction in afterload and preload. Also dilates coronary vessels.
Indications	Congestive heart failure. Angina. Acute coronary syndrome
Contraindications	Hypersensitivity to drug or components Head trauma or cerebral hemorrhage, hypotension or uncorrected hypovolemia.
Adverse Effects	Hypotension, bradycardia, methemoglobinemia, headache, dizziness, flushing, postural hypotension, tachycardia, burning oral sensation (SL).
Precautions	Use with caution in head injured patients, glaucoma, hypovolemia, hypotension, right ventricular infarction, or any other preload dependent state.
Dosing/Administration	Available in tablets or metered dose spray canister at 0.4mg/dose, or as a solution for IV injection. Adult: 0.4 mg SL every 5 min or continuous infusion 10 mcg/min IV increasing by 10 mcg/min every 3 – 5 min (usual dose 5 – 200 mcg/min).
Pregnancy Category	Class C Uncertain safety – animal studies show adverse effect but no human studies exist