

Physician's Orders
Procainamide Administration
(ICU/PCU/Cath Lab/ED)

Indication: cardiac arrhythmias

Drug Allergies:

Contraindications:

- Complete heart block or second or third degree AV block
- Hypersensitivity to procainamide, procaine, or other ester-type local anesthetics
- Systemic lupus erythematosus
- Torsades de pointes
- Myasthenia gravis

Precautions:

- A-V nodal blockade is recommended prior to administration to avoid paradoxical tachycardia (i.e.: digoxin, Ca⁺/B-blockers)
- Acute ischemic heart disease
- Blood dyscrasias
- Cardiomyopathy
- Congestive heart failure
- Concomitant use of digoxin
- Concomitant use of other group 1A antiarrhythmics (i.e., quinidine, disopyramide)
- First degree heart block
- IM administration may be painful and cause a rise in serum CPK levels
- Liver disease
- Myasthenia gravis
- Post-myocardial infarction patients with asymptomatic or minimally symptomatic non-life threatening ventricular arrhythmias (increased mortality)

Dosage:

Loading Dose:

- ☐ Procainamide 1 gram IV over 30 minutes.

Maintenance dose:

- ☐ Procainamide 0.05mg/kg/min IV **Automatic stop in 48 hours**

- If the SBP decreases >15 mmHg during loading dose, hold until SBP returns to baseline and infuse maintenance at 0.025 mg/kg/min
- Decrease dose by 25% for patients 50-75, decrease by 50% for patients > 75

Dilution:

- Loading dose: 1000mg/50ml Normal Saline
- Maintenance infusion: 2000mg/500ml Normal Saline

- Monitor BP at 5 min intervals until stable then every 1 hr once stable on maintenance dose.
- Continuous cardiac monitor

Adverse Effects:

- Tachycardia, arrhythmias, hypotension
- Hypersensitivity reactions
- Lupus erythematosus-like syndrome
- Agranulocytosis, neutropenia, thrombocytopenia (uncommon)

Comments:

- Hypokalemia increases the proarrhythmic effects of procainamide
- Dose adjustment for age is required

Physician's Signature

____/____/____
Date

Time

Nurse #1 Signature

____/____/____
Date

Time

Nurse #2 Signature

____/____/____
Date

Time