ED-3327-FRM REV 0 11.24.09

Conway Medical Center Conway, South Carolina Physician's Orders ER/ICU/PCU ONLY

Center Patient Admission Label Here

For Cardene IV (Nicardipine)

Calcium channel blocker for Hypertensive Emergency and urgency.	
For use with stroke protocol.	
Another brand of drug identical in form and content may be dispensed unless checked	Allergies:
Indications:	
Hypertensive emergency and urgency	
2. Angina	
Not compatible with sodium bicarbonate and Lactated Ringers	
Administration:	
Dilute each ampule (25mg/10ml) with 240ml of either NS or D5W to make 250ml of IV solution for a final concentration of 0.1mg/ml or use premixed 20mg/200ml bag.	
Initiate Cardene IV at 5mg/hr. Rate may be increased by 2.5mg/hr every 5-15 minutes up to a maximum of 15mg/hr to target BP. Target BP: or Target MAP:	
Obtain BP and heart rate every 5 minutes while titrating, then every 30 minutes during infusion.	
** D/C infusion for symptomatic hypotension or tachycardia ** If a peripheral vein is used, the infusion site should be evaluated for need to change every 12 hours. To transfer to PO anti hypertensives other than PO Cardene, D/C infusion first. If transferring to PO Cardene, give first PO dose 1 hour before D/C of infusion.	
Precautions: Acute myocardial infarction, bradycardia, cardiogenic shock, elderly, heart failure, hepatic disease, intracranial bleeding, pregnancy, stroke.	
Contraindications: Advanced aortic stenosis, hypersensitivity to calcium channel blockers.	
Physician Signature	/
Nurse # 1 verifying rate	Nurse # 2 verifying rate