


Section: Drug Reference
Subject: LIDOCAINE (XYLOCAINE®)
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Lidocaine

1. CLASSIFICATION
 - a. Antidysrhythmic
2. ACTIONS / DESCRIPTIONS
 - a. Alters the sodium influx across the membranes decreasing tissue automaticity and subsequent ventricular depolarization
 - b. Suppresses PVCs and reduces the threshold for V-fib during an MI.
 - c. Decreases transient ICP and risk of laryngospasm during RSI.
 - d. Local anesthetic.
3. INDICATIONS
 - a. V-fib, pVT, Stable VT
 - b. Wide complex tachycardia of unknown etiology
 - c. Significant ventricular ectopy in the setting of myocardial ischemia/infarction
 - d. RSI when the patient has a head injury and etomidate is contraindicated
4. CONTRAINDICATIONS
 - a. 2nd degree type II and 3rd degree AV blocks
 - b. WPW
 - c. Torsades de points
 - d. Known hypersensitivity to the drug
5. PRECAUTIONS
 - a. **Cautious Use:** decrease dose by ½ for patients with known or suspected hepatic disease, CHF, geriatrics, and for patients with a systolic BP < 100 mmHg
6. ADVERSE REACTIONS
 - a. Seizures with high doses
 - b. Lightheadedness, confusion, altered LOC
 - c. Blurred vision
 - d. Bradycardia
 - e. Muscle twitching
 - f. AV blocks
 - g. Hypotension
7. DRUG ACTION TIME
 - a. Onset: < 3 minutes
 - b. Duration: 10 – 20 minutes
8. INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION POINTS
 - a. Only works on ventricles
 - b. If bradycardia occurs in conjunction with PVCs, always treat the Bradycardia first
 - c. A 75 – 100 mg bolus will only maintain blood levels for approximately 20 minutes
 - d. Treat PVCs in the presence of cardiac disease if they are impairing perfusion
 - e. "R on T" phenomenon