


Section: Drug Reference
Subject: LABETALOL
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Labetalol

1. CLASSIFICATION
 - a. Non-selective Beta receptor antagonist
 - b. Selective Alpha₁ receptor antagonist
2. ACTIONS/DESCRIPTIONS
 - a. Reduces blood pressure by producing non-selective beta-receptor blockade.
 - b. Selective Alpha₁ blockade prevents reflexive tachycardia to occur in the presence of beta receptor blockade
3. INDICATIONS
 - a. Significant hypertension in the presence of CVA
4. CONTRAINDICATIONS
 - a. Known hypersensitivity
 - b. Asthma, current acute exacerbation
 - c. Decompensated CHF
 - d. High degree AV block
 - e. Cardiogenic shock
 - f. Bradycardia (HR<60 bpm)
 - g. Hypotension (SBP<90 mmHg)
5. SIDE EFFECTS
 - a. Postural hypotension
 - b. Diaphoresis
 - c. Nausea
 - d. Vomiting
6. DURATION OF ACTION
 - a. Onset: Within 5 minutes, with a peak effect at 10-15 minutes
 - b. Duration: 45 minutes
7. DOSAGE
 - a. 10mg IV over 1 - 2 minutes
8. SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS
 - a. Continuous monitoring of EKG and vitals should be in place
 - b. Observe for signs of CHF, bradycardia, or bronchospasm and treat according to the respective protocols.