



8. NITROGLYCERIN

(Patient Prescribed, Patient Assisted)


a) Indications

- (1) Patient must have own prescribed sublingual nitroglycerin.
- (2) Chest pain

b) Adverse Effects

- (1) Hypotension
- (2) Headache
- (3) Dizziness
- (4) Tachycardia

c) Precautions

- (1) Reassess blood pressure before and after administration.
- (2)  If systolic blood pressure drops more than 20 mmHg, obtain medical consultation before further administration.



d) Contraindications

- (1) Blood pressure below 90 mmHg systolic
- (2) Heart rate less than 60
- (3) Medication not prescribed for the patient
- (4) Pediatric patient under age 13
- (5) Any patient having taken medication for Pulmonary Artery Hypertension (e.g., Adcirca® or Revatio®) or erectile dysfunction (e.g., Viagra®, Levitra®, or Cialis®) within the past 48 hours. Medical consultation is required to override this contraindication.

e) Preparations

Spray or tablet

f) Dosage

- (1) Adult: One tablet or one spray sublingually
 - (a) Repeat in 3 to 5 minutes if chest pain persists
 - (b) Maximum of three doses (a combination of patient-administered and EMT-administered) of nitroglycerin
- (2)  Pediatric: (nitroglycerin contraindicated for children under age 13)
- (3)  Additional doses may be administered with medical consultation.