

# Kittitas County Prehospital EMS Protocols

**SUBJECT: DILTIAZEM (CARDIZEM)**

**ACTION:**

Calcium Channel Blocker, Coronary Vasodilator, Antidysrhythmic.

**INDICATIONS:**

Atrial Fibrillation or Atrial Flutter.

**CONTRAINDICATIONS:**

1. Sick sinus syndrome, except in the presence of a functioning ventricular pacemaker.
2. Patients with second or third degree AV block, except in the presence of a functioning ventricular pacemaker.
3. Patients with severe hypotension, or cardiogenic shock.
4. Patients who have demonstrated hypersensitivity to the drug.
5. Intravenous Diltiazem and intravenous beta-blockers should not be administered together, or in close proximity (within a few hours).
6. Patients with atrial fibrillation, or atrial flutter associated with an accessory bypass tract such as in WPW syndrome, or short PR syndrome.
7. Patients with ventricular tachycardia.

**PRECAUTIONS:**

Additive effects in prolonging AV conduction when using beta-blockers or digitalis concomitantly with Diltiazem HCL.

**SIDE EFFECTS:**

Nausea, vomiting, and hypotension, almost always when administered to the conscious patient.

**DOSAGE:**

**Adult:** 0.25 mg/kg as a bolus administered over 2 minutes.

If response is inadequate, a second dose of 0.35 mg/kg may be administered after 15 minutes.

**ROUTE:**

IV / IO

**PEDIATRIC DOSE:**

Rarely used.