

Kittitas County Prehospital Care Protocols

SUBJECT: NITROGLYCERIN

ACTION:

Dilates coronary and systemic arteries.

INDICATIONS:

Angina pectoris, chest pain associated with AMI, CHF with suspected pulmonary edema

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- Children under 12
- Hypotension (Baseline systolic BP is below 100 mm/Hg)
- The patient (male or female) has taken tadalafil drugs / vasodilators (Cialis, Levitra, Staxyn, or Viagra, common brands) within the last 48 hours. Tadalafil is an oral drug that is used for treating impotence (ED) and benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH, enlarged prostate).
- Head injury suspected (includes stroke)
- Three doses have already been taken by the patient.

PRECAUTIONS:

Constantly monitor blood pressure, syncope, drug must be protected from light, expires quickly once bottle is opened.

SIDE EFFECTS:

Headache, dizziness, hypotension, change in pulse

DOSAGE:

1 tablet repeated q 3-5 minutes x 3 (0.4 mg tablets or unit dose spray).

ROUTE:

Sublingual

PEDIATRIC DOSE:

Not indicated.

EMTs:

Assist with administration of patient's own prescribed Nitroglycerin if available and appropriate, **per on-line medical control**. Continue emergency medical care per protocol.

NOTE: Another brand of tadalafil is Adcirca, which is used to treat pulmonary arterial hypertension. Some types of vasodilators may be injectable. Any type of vasodilator should be considered contraindicated unless directed by online medical control.