

MICU Treatment Protocols

Nitroprusside (Nitropress)

Indications: Hypertensive emergencies including stroke, aortic dissection, acute MI, CHF.

Contra-indications: Compensatory hypertension. Extreme caution indicated in use with patients with renal or hepatic insufficiency.

Adverse Effects: Hypotension, tachycardia, thiocyanate and cyanide toxicity found especially in patients with renal or hepatic insufficiency: Thiocyanate toxicity may be seen by tinnitus, blurred vision and delirium.

Administration: Infusion of 0.5 to 10 mcg/kg/min. (mix 50 mg Nitroprusside in 250 ml/D5W) titrated carefully to desired effect.

Patient Weight								
mcg/min	30 kg	40 kg	50 kg	60 kg	70 kg	80 kg	90 kg	100kg
0.5 mcg	4.5	6	7.5	9	10	12	14	15
1 mcg	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30
2 mcg	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60
4 mcg	26	48	60	72	84	96	108	120
8 mcg	72	96	120	144	166	192	216	240
10 mcg	90	120	150	180	210	240	270	300

ml/hr

MICU Directives:

1. Follow generalized protocol for MICU transports.
2. Maintain appropriate delivery by IV infusion pump.
3. Monitor vital signs every 5 minutes.
4. Solution bag should be wrapped in foil due to light sensitivity.
5. If an invasive arterial line monitoring device is present and compatible with MICU equipment, continue monitoring during transport.

MCA Approved	05/01	07/02		
Implement	05/01	01/03		