

Monterey County EMS System Policy



Protocol Number: R-2
Effective Date: 8/25/2023
Review Date: 6/30/2025

PULMONARY EDEMA

BLS CARE

Routine Medical Care.

ALS CARE

Routine Medical Care

O2 titrated to 94-99% SpO2

CPAP if systolic BP >110mmHg

12 lead EKG as soon as possible

Establish IV NS

Administer Nitroglycerine (NTG):

0.4mg NTG SL spray or tablet: May repeat every 5 minutes for continuing symptoms if systolic BP is > 110mmHg.

OR

0.8mg NTG SL spray or tablet: May repeat every 5 minutes for continuing symptoms if systolic BP is > 160 mmHg.

Maximum total dose for either SL dosage: 8mg. Vital signs shall be repeated between NTG doses. Only increase NTG to 0.8mg while systolic B/P is > 160mmHg; Resume 0.4mg SL if systolic BP drops below 160mmHg.

NTG Paste Administration:

1 inch of NTG paste may be administered for transdermal absorption as second dose, when using CPAP.

Consider 324mg of ASA PO for patients with acute coronary syndrome

Rapid Transport

Consider 5-20mcg/kg/min Dopamine drip if suspected cardiogenic shock and hypotension persist.

NOTE:

Contraindications for NTG:

- Known sensitivity to nitrate medications
- Patient has taken phosphodiesterase inhibitors within the past 48 hours, such as Viagra, Cialis, Levitra, Stendra, Staxyn, sildenafil, avanafil, tadalafil or vardenafil.

- Are hypotensive: systolic BP <110mmHg
- Age 12 years old and younger

Warnings:

In the event that defibrillation pads need to be placed on the patient, avoid placing over NTG Paste or a preexisting NTG Patch. If necessary, remove the NTG Paste or NTG Patch, wipe off the area, and then place defibrillation pads.