



Jackson Hole Fire/EMS Operations Manual

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Title: **Medication Protocol:
Nitroglycerin**

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NITROGLYCERIN (Nitrostat) (Medication Protocol)

EMT

EMT-BASICS MAY ASSIST PATIENTS WITH THEIR NITROGLYCERIN UNDER THE FOLLOWING CIRCUMSTANCES:

- The medication is prescribe to the patient
- The medication is not expired
- The patient has symptoms that indicate the use of this medication and there are no contraindications
- The patient has not exceeded dose and the EMT-BASIC will deliver the proper dose via the proper route
- **YOU HAVE RECEIVED VOICE AUTHORIZATION FROM MEDICAL CONTROL**

ADVANCED EMT/EMT-INTERMEDIATE

NO VOICE ORDER REQUIRED

PARAMEDIC

NO VOICE ORDER REQUIRED

CLASS: Anti-anginal / Vasodilator

**PHARMACOLOGY/
ACTIONS:** Nitrates and nitrites dilate arterioles and veins in the periphery (and coronary arteries in high doses). The resultant reduction in preload, and to a lesser extent in afterload, decreases the workload of the heart and lowers myocardial oxygen demand.

ONSET/DURATION: Onset: 1-3 min / Duration: 30-60 min

**USE IN FIELD/
INDICATIONS:** Chest pain of suspected cardiac origin, pulmonary edema, congestive heart failure, hypertensive emergency with normal mental status and no focal weakness.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: **SBP < 90 mm/Hg.**
Recent use of ED drugs such as Viagra, Cialis, or Levitra
Increased intra cranial pressure
Cerebral edema
Dehydration
Children under 12
Aortic stenosis

SIDE EFFECTS: Hypotension, headache, dizziness, nausea & vomiting, diaphoresis

DRUG INTERACTIONS: Other vasodilators may have additive hypotensive effects.

HOW SUPPLIED: Tablets: 0.4 mg ($\frac{1}{150}$ gr), Metered spray

ROUTE: SL, IV, IO

DOSAGE:

	ADULT	PEDIATRIC
	1 tablet or spray sub-lingual, may be repeated in 5 minutes up to three doses.	Not recommended

***Repeated doses if prolonged transport per medical control.

PREGNANCY SAFETY: Category C – give only if potential benefits justifies risk to fetus

COMMENTS: Establish IV access. **Use only if BP > 90.** Recheck BP and pulse after administration. Therapeutic effect is enhanced but adverse effects are increased when patient is upright.