



Jackson Hole Fire/EMS Operations Manual

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Title: **Medication Protocol:
Norepinephrine**

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NOREPINEPHRINE (Levophed®) (Medication Protocol)

EMT-INTERMEDIATE PROVIDERS

NOT AUTHORIZED

PARAMEDIC PROVIDERS

STANDING ORDER

CLASS: Adrenergic, Catecholamine, Sympathomimetic

**PHARMACOLOGY/
ACTIONS:** Stimulates adrenergic receptors: alpha (peripheral vasoconstriction),
beta-1 (inotropic); producing potent vasopressor effects.

ONSET/DURATION: Onset: 1-2 minutes
Duration: 1-2 minutes

**USE IN FIELD/
INDICATIONS:** Severe Hypotension (adult systolic BP < 70-90 mmHg or MAP<65) -
due to cardiogenic, septic, or neurogenic/spinal shock refractory to fluid
boluses or when intravascular fluid bolusing is contraindicated.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Hypersensitivity, known vascular thrombosis, hypovolemia, tachy-
dysrhythmias, hypertension.

SIDE EFFECTS: Hypertension, Headache, Anxiety, Dyspnea, Dysrhythmias, Ischemic
injury

DRUG INTERACTIONS: Use in caution with patients taking known MAOIs, antihistamines, anti-
depressants (imipramine or imipramine types) due to risk of prolonged
hypertension.

ROUTE: IV, IO

DOSAGE:	ADULT	PEDIATRIC (<45 kg)
	2-12 mcg/min Titrate to SBP \geq 70-90mmHg or MAP > 65 Begin at low range and titrate up every 2-5 minutes until goal SBP/MAP achieved.	0.1-2 mcg/kg/min Titrate to age appropriate BP: SBP $>70+(2 \times \text{age})$ Begin at low range and titrate up every 2-5 minutes until goal SBP/MAP achieved.

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

PRECAUTIONS: Utilize a large vein (ex: AC) as extravasation can cause tissue necrosis and sloughing.
 Continually check IV site for patency and signs/symptoms of infiltration.
 Do not use if discolored (e.g. pink, dark yellow, brown)
 D5W solution protects against loss of potency due to oxidation

Early consultation with Medical Control to discuss medical decision making and treatment is encouraged when possible.

NOREPINEPHRINE DRIP PREPARATION FLOW SHEET

1. Prepare a 250 ml bag of D5W.
2. Decant the volume of medication to be added to the bag.
3. Add 8 mg to create a concentration of 32 mcg/ml.
4. Use of an IV Pump use is preferred.

Dose	IV Pump 15 drops/ml tubing	If IV pump not available: Use 60 drops/ml administration set
2 mcg/min	Utilize IV Pump settings	4 drops/min.
4 mcg/min		8 drops/min.
6 mcg/min		11 drops/min.
8 mcg/min		15 drops/min.
10 mcg/min		19 drops/min.
12 mcg/min		23 drops/min.