**H15. Dopamine (Intropin)**

**Class and Action:** Sympathomimetic; it acts on α- and β-adrenergic receptors. Effects are dosage based. Low doses cause vasodilation in the kidneys, brain, and mesentery. Mid level doses stimulate β effects of increased contractility, increased CO, and increased BP. Higher doses stimulate α effects of peripheral vasoconstriction.

**Indications:** Hypotension in absence of hypovolemia, cardiogenic shock, septic shock, neurogenic shock

**Contraindications:** Tachydysrhythmias, Vfib, pheochromocytoma

**Side Effects:** Tachydysrhythmias, hypertension, increased myocardial oxygen demand

**Drug Interactions:** Incompatible with many drugs, administer through separate line.

**Onset, Duration, and Routes:** Onset is within 2-4 minutes and has a duration of 10-15 minutes. Routes of administration are IV and IO.

**Adult Dose:**
- 2-20 mcg/kg/min

**Pediatric Dose:**
- 2-20 mcg/kg/min

**WDM EMS Protocols:**
C12. Shock

**Special Considerations:**
- Utilize central line if available
- Make sure IV is patent as dopamine can cause severe tissue damage if infiltrated