**Class and Action:** Vasodilator; nitrates & nitrites dilate arterioles and veins in the periphery (and coronary arteries in high doses). Reduces preload, afterload, and overall workload, and reduces myocardial oxygen demand.

**Indications:** Ischemic chest pain, pulmonary hypertension, CHF/pulmonary edema, hypertensive crisis  

**Contraindications:** Hypersensitivity, head injury, hypotension, cerebral hemorrhage, use of erectile dysfunction medications, use of long acting nitrates in the last 24 hours.

**Side Effects:** tachycardia, hypotension, N/V, syncope, diaphoresis  

**Drug Interactions:** Increased hypotension with other vasodilators and erectile dysfunction medication

**Onset, Duration, and Routes:** Onset is 1-3 minutes with duration of 30-60 minutes. Routes of administration include SL, IV, or topical

**Adult Dose:**  
- Chest pain 0.4 mg SL, repeat every 5 minutes  
- Chest Pain initiate infusion at 10 mcg/min, unless inferior STEMI start at 5 mcg/min - titrate as needed  
- Hypertensive crisis 0.4 mg SL or infusion at 10 mcg/min, titrate as needed  
- Pulmonary Edema 0.4 mg SL or infusion at 50 mcg/min, titrate as needed

**Pediatric Dose:**  
- Not indicated

**WDM EMS Protocols:**  
B3. Chest Pain  
B4. Hypertensive Crisis  
E5. Respiratory Distress

**Special Considerations:**  
- Nitroglycerin is light sensitive and needs to be protected in a dark, air sealed container.  
- Do administer if SBP is below 90 mmHg.

Protocol: H37 Nitroglycerin  
Date of Most Recent Update: 6/2020