

8.03 N. Chest Pain / Acute Coronary Syndrome / MI - ADULT ONLY

Chest Pain Notes

A. NTG Inclusion Criteria Questions:

- The patient must be at least 18 years of age.
- The patient must have a systolic blood pressure >100 mmHg.
- The patient must currently be experiencing chest discomfort or symptoms consistent with acute coronary syndrome.
- The chest pain is consistent with myocardial ischemia (be aware of atypical symptoms in certain patients (females, elderly, diabetics, etc.)).

B. All patients (male or female) who receive nitroglycerin must be questioned about taking Sildenafil Citrate (Viagra®) or other erectile dysfunction drugs (Levitra® or Cialis®). Any patient that has taken these medications within the last 24 hours should not receive any form of nitroglycerin as irreversible hypotension may occur. It is imperative that the patient be questioned (in a confidential manner) about the use of these medications. The fact that the patient was questioned as well as their answer must be recorded in the patient care record. Contact on-line physician for further orders in this case.

C. The patient must maintain a SBP > 100 mmHg before subsequent doses of nitroglycerin may be administered.

D. All 12-Lead ECG's in patients being transported to the hospital for chest pain (or concern of cardiac disease) shall be transmitted to the Base Station as detailed in 9.04.

*^a If patient has taken 81 mg ASA, give 243 mg ASA (3 baby ASA).

*^b Right Ventricular Infarction is diagnosed by a 1 mm ST Elevation in lead V₄R. Nitroglycerin is relatively contraindicated in Right Ventricular Infarctions. It should only be administered at the order of On-Line Medical Control.

*^c Hypotension : See Table 8-2

