

MEDICATION REFERENCE LIST

NICARDIPINE HYDROCHLORIDE (CARDENE)

1. **Classification:** Antihypertensive, Calcium Channel Blocker
2. **Physiologic Effect:** Inhibits the influx of calcium ions into cardiac and smooth muscle.
3. **Major Indications:** Acute Hypertension
4. **Primary Contraindications:**
 - 4.1. **Hypersensitivity**
 - 4.2. **Aortic Stenosis**
 - 4.3. **Hypotension**
5. **Side Effects:**
 - 5.1. **Hypotension**
 - 5.2. **Tachycardia**
 - 5.3. **Fatigue**
 - 5.4. **Dizziness**
 - 5.5. **Nausea/Vomiting**
6. **Administration/Dosage:**
 - 6.1. **Concentration:** 20mg/200ml
 - 6.2. **Begin infusion at 5 mg/hr**
 - 6.3. **Titrate to desired effect (SBP < 180 and/or DBP < 105) by increasing the dose by 1-2.5 mg/hr every 5 minutes to a maximum dose of 15 mg/hr**
 - 6.4. **Hold infusion for BP < 140/80**
7. **Additional information:**
 - 7.1. **Medication should be infused with an infusion pump.**
 - 7.2. **Monitor cardiac rhythm and blood pressure closely.**
 - 7.3. **Use with caution in patients with CHF or pregnancy.**