

Seminole Community College
Paramedic 1
Medication Handout #3
Vasopressin

Description- Anti-diuretic hormone with strong vasopressor properties. It may also precipitate AMI or Anginal episodes.

Indications- Increase peripheral vascular resistance in arrest (CPR) or to control bleeding from esophageal varices.

Contraindications- Contraindicated in patients with Chronic nephritis with nitrogen retention, ischemic heart disease, PVCs, advanced arteriosclerosis, or 1st stage of labor (dilation).

Precautions- Epilepsy, migraines, heart failure, angina, vascular disease, hepatic impairment, elderly, and children.

Supplied- Usually supplied in 20 Unit Vials. Requires two for the Adult Cardiac Arrest dose.

Dosage / Route- Cardiac Arrest (VF/VT) – 40 Units IV
Esophageal Varices- 0.2 to 0.4 units / minute IV drip