

HYDRALAZINE

Class: Vasodilator

Indications: Management of moderate-to-severe hypertension

Heart failure; hypertension secondary to pre-eclampsia/eclampsia

Available dosage form in the hospital: 20MG AMP, 25MG TAB

Dosage:

-Hypertension: Oral: Initial: 10 mg 4 times/day; increase by 10-25 mg/dose every 2-5 days (maximum: 300 mg/day); usual dose range (JNC 7): 25-100 mg/day in 2 divided doses

-Acute hypertension: I.M., I.V.: Initial: 10-20 mg/dose every 4-6 hours as needed, may increase to 40 mg/dose; change to oral therapy as soon as possible.

-Pre-eclampsia/eclampsia: I.M., I.V.: 5 mg/dose then 5-10 mg every 20-30 minutes as needed

-Congestive heart failure:

- Oral: *Initial dose:* 10-25 mg 3-4 times/day

-*Adjustment:* Dosage must be adjusted based on individual response

-*Target dose:* 225-300 mg/day in divided doses; use in combination with isosorbide dinitrate.

Geriatric

Oral: Initial: 10 mg 2-3 times/day; increase by 10-25 mg/day every 2-5 days.

Renal Impairment:

-Cl_{cr} 10-50 mL/minute: Administer every 8 hours.

-Cl_{cr} <10 mL/minute: Administer every 8-16 hours in fast acetylators and every 12-24 hours in slow acetylators.

-Hemodialysis effects: Supplemental dose is not necessary.

-Peritoneal dialysis effects: Supplemental dose is not necessary.

Hepatic Impairment:

No dosage adjustment provided in manufacturer's labeling. However, hydralazine undergoes extensive hepatic metabolism.

Common side effect: Cardiovascular: Angina pectoris, flushing, orthostatic hypotension, palpitations, paradoxical hypertension, peripheral edema, tachycardia, vascular collapse

Central nervous system: Anxiety, chills, depression, disorientation, dizziness, fever, headache, increased intracranial pressure (I.V.; in patient with pre-existing increased intracranial pressure), psychotic reaction

Dermatologic: Pruritus, rash, urticaria

Gastrointestinal: Anorexia, constipation, diarrhea, nausea, paralytic ileus, vomiting

Genitourinary: Dysuria, impotence

Hematologic: Agranulocytosis, eosinophilia, erythrocyte count reduced, hemoglobin decreased, hemolytic anemia, leukopenia, thrombocytopenia

Pregnancy Risk Factor: C