

Professional EMS Education Medication Profiles

Vasopressin (Pitressin)	
Classification	-Hormone; Vasopressor
Actions	-Non adrenergic vasoconstrictor (V1 receptor) -Anti-diuretic at low doses (V2 receptor)
Indications	-VF; Pulseless VT; PEA; Asystole -Control bleed associated with esophageal varices
Contraindications	-Chronic nephritis -CAD -Angina
Side effects	-High doses: abdominal cramps; hypertension; angina; myocardial aschemia
Precautions	-CAD; CHF; renal disease
Adult Dose	-Cardiac Arrest – 40 units (2 ml) one time only -Varices – 0.2-0.4 U / min
Route	IV; IO
How supplied	-20 unit / ml vials -200 units / 10 ml vials
Onset / Duration	IV - Rapid; 30-60 minutes
Half Life	10-20 minutes
Interaction	- Decrease ADH effect: Heparin / Lithium / Norepinephrinemay -Potentiate ADH effect:: Tegretol / TCA's / Diabinese