

ACTIVE LEARNING TEMPLATE: *Medication*

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MEDICATION Furosemide

REVIEW MODULE CHAPTER _____

CATEGORY CLASS Loop Diuretic

PURPOSE OF MEDICATION

Expected Pharmacological Action

Inhibits the reabsorption of sodium and chloride from the loop of Henle and distal renal tubule. Increases renal excretion of water, sodium, chloride, magnesium, potassium, and calcium.

Therapeutic Use

Diuresis and subsequent mobilization of excess fluid (edema, pleural effusions).
Decreased blood pressure.

Complications

hypotension, photosensitivity, hearing loss/tinnitus, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, dehydration, hypovolemia, hypokalemia, agranulocytosis, blurred vision, dizziness

Medication Administration

PO: 20-80mg/day as a single dose initially, may repeat in 6-8hr; may increase dose by 20-40mg every 6-8hr until desired response
IM/V: 20-40mg, may repeat in 1-2hr and increase by 20mg every 1-2hr until response is obtained; continuous infusion: bolus 0.1mg/kg followed by 0.1mg/kg/hr, double every 2hr to a maximum of 0.4mg/kg/hr

Contraindications/Precautions

CI: cross-sensitivity with thiazides and sulfonamides, hepatic coma or anuria, hypersensitivity
Prec: severe hepatic impairment, electrolyte depletion, severe renal impairment, hypoproteinemia

Nursing Interventions

Assess fluid status (edema, daily weight, lung sounds, mucous membranes), monitor BP and pulse before and during administration, assess for tinnitus and hearing loss, monitor electrolytes and hepatic function before and throughout therapy

Interactions

Risk of hypotension with antihypertensives, nitrates, or acute ingestion of alcohol, NSAIDs decrease effects, increased risk of hypokalemia with other diuretics, amphotericin B, stimulant laxatives, and corticosteroids

Client Education

Take as directed, change positions slowly, Advise to contact HCP if weight gain is more than 3 lbs in 1 day, Advise to use sunscreen and protective clothing while outside, report any hearing loss or tinnitus

Evaluation of Medication Effectiveness

Decrease in edema, Increase in urinary output, decrease in blood pressure, decrease in abdominal girth and weight