

# Nitroglycerin (Nitroquick®), Nitrostat®)

**Indication:** Angina pectoris; pulmonary/systemic hypertension

**Adult Dosage Range:** Sublingual: 0.4mg tab, 0.4 mg spray- may repeat once every 5 minutes to a max of 3 doses; ½-1 inch paste for transdermal administration.

**Pediatric Dosage Range:** **Contraindicated**

**Time to onset:** Sublingual - 1 to 3 minutes

## **Contraindications:**

- Withhold from any patient taking erectile dysfunction drugs within last 72 hours; consult Medical Control
- Hypersensitivity to nitroglycerin
- Increased ICP
- Systolic blood pressure less than 110 mmHg

## **How is it given?**

- Sub-lingual

## **What should be monitored?**

- Level of consciousness
- Blood pressure
- Heart rate

## **Major Drug Interactions:**

- Alcohol, beta-blockers, calcium channel blockers may enhance nitroglycerin's hypotensive effect
- Sildenafil and other drugs for erectile dysfunction may increase vasodilatory effects and result in severe irreversible hypotension

## **What side effects/potential complications are expected?**

- Headache
- Dizziness
- Hypotension/orthostasis
- Postural syncope
- Tachycardia

## **Are there any special instructions?**

- Do not chew or swallow sublingual dosage forms
- Keep patient supine when possible and monitor blood pressure frequently