

**VANCOUVER GENERAL HOSPITAL
CSU PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES
NON-FORMULARY DRUG DATA SHEET**

DRUG NAME

Ergonovine maleate

ALTERNATE NAME

STRENGTH

0.25 mg/mL (1 mL vial)

DOSAGE FORM

Parenteral

INDICATIONS

- provocative test for diagnosis of variant angina; normal response of coronary arteries in response to ergot alkaloids is coronary vasospasm

MECHANISM OF ACTION

- partial agonist at alpha adrenergic, dopaminergic and tryptaminergic receptors

RECONSTITUTION AND STABILITY

- refrigerate 2-8 degrees, protect from light
- do not use discoloured solutions

COMPATIBILITY

- incompatible with other drugs

ADMINISTRATION

- IM - deep into large muscle
- IV direct - into tubing of a running IV over at least 1 minute via physician only

DOSAGE

- 0.0125 - 0.05 mg IV bolus every 3-5 minutes to a maximum cumulative dose of 0.375 mg

POTENTIAL SIDE EFFECTS

- angina, temporary chest pain, dyspnea or diaphoresis, myocardial infarction, hypertension, palpitations or changes in heart rate (e.g. sinus bradycardia or sinus tachycardia) may occur.
- dose limiting side effects: hypertension, vomiting, headache and back pain
- arrhythmias can develop in 1.9% of patients and resolve promptly with nitroglycerin
- esophageal spasm which may be indistinguishable from Prinzmetal's (variant) angina. The simultaneous occurrence of chest pain and arteriographic and electrocardiographic changes are needed to differentiate between the two.
- seizures and coma rarely occur. Rare ocular events include: blurred vision, visual impairment (transient blindness).

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