

PROTOCOL FOR: Antihypertensives

DESIRED PATIENT

OUTCOMES: Will have blood pressure maintained within desired parameters for age and maturity.

CLINICAL
ASSESSMENTS

- AND CARE:
1. Blood pressure a minimum of q4 hours; note trends.
 - a. *Report blood pressure values outside of ordered parameters. Optimal measurements are obtained while the infant is at rest.*
 2. Assess for signs of inadequate cardiac output:
 - a. tachycardia
 - b. decreased perfusion to extremities
 - 1) low temperature
 - 2) low pulse amplitude
 - 3) capillary refill > 3 seconds
 - 4) pallor, mottling or acrocyanosis
 - c. decreased urine output
 3. Guaiac stools of infants on Hydralazine as ordered.
 4. Report emesis and diarrhea.

PATIENT TEACHING: Medication Administration Teaching Record; parent handout on Hydralazine.

APPROVAL: Nursing Standards Committee

EFFECTIVE DATE: 5/90

REVISION DATES: 6/91, 9/92, 12/94, 5/97, 5/99

REVIEWED DATES: 12/08