<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>NITROGLYCERIN</strong></th>
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<td><strong>CLASS</strong></td>
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| **ACTION** | - Relaxes vascular smooth muscle  
- Dilation of coronary arteries  
- Dilation of systemic arteries (reduces afterload)  
- Venous dilation (reduces preload) |
| **INDICATIONS** | - Chest pain suspected to be cardiac in origin  
- Pulmonary edema |
| **CONTRAINDICATIONS** | - Hypotension |
| **PRECAUTIONS** | - Monitor blood pressure before and after administration of each dose.  
- Do not administer if systolic BP less than 90  
- Protect from light |
| **SIDE EFFECTS** | - Headache  
- Facial flushing  
- Dizziness  
- Hypotension  
- Bradycardia (rare)  
- Reflex tachycardia |
| **ROUTE** | - Sublingual  
- Topical |
| **DOSE** | - Sublingual: place 1 tablet under the patient’s tongue. May repeat every 5 minutes for a total of 3 tablets.  
- Topical: Used for long transport times when sublingual nitroglycerin has been helpful in reducing chest pain. Place ½ inch of nitropaste on the ruled applicator measuring paper. Apply to a hairless area of the skin on the chest. Tape in place. Remove any previously applied nitroglycerin patches/ointment. |
| **PEDIATRIC DOSE** | None |
| **ONSET** | 1 to 2 minutes |
| **DURATION** | 15 to 30 minutes |
| **STOCK** | (1) 25 tablet bottle of 0.4 mg tablets  
(2) Unit doses of topical nitroglycerin and ruled applicator papers |