

Cerebyx (fosphenytoin)

Indication: Status Epilepticus / Seizures
Stable for greater than 24 hours

Dosing: 1000mg bolus appropriate for seizing patient, but dosing should be individualized.

Adverse effects: Hypotension, V. Fib, Drowsiness, Dizziness, Headache, Leukopenia, Thrombocytopenia, Stevens Johnson Syndrome: Rash

Drug Interactions: Dosage for some HIV medications may need to be increased for a patient on phenytoin as it is an inducer.

Contraindications: Adams-Stokes syndrome, agranulocytosis, AV block, bone marrow suppression, bradycardia, bundle branch block, and hydantoin hypersensitivity

Nursing Considerations:

1. Dosing is based on phenytoin equivalents (PE). Thus 1000mg of Cerebyx PE = 1000mg of phenytoin sodium.
2. Medication should be diluted to a concentration of 1.5 – 25 mg PE/ml
3. IV rate should not exceed 150mg PE/min
4. Phenytoin therapeutic level 10 – 20mcg/ml
5. Monitor BP, HR, and mental status