

Cardizem Protocol

Standard Concentration: 1mg/ml

Stable for 24 hours at room temperature or under refrigeration.

Infusion rates in ml/hr is the same as mg/hr because concentration is 1mg/ml.

In patients with low body weights, bolus doses should be based on mg/kg doses.

Otherwise, use the 20 or 25mg doses.

Dosing:

Paroxysmal Supraventricular Tachycardia (PSVT)

20mg (0.25mg/kg) dose given over 2 minutes

If no conversion to normal sinus rhythm, may give 25mg (0.35mg/kg) may be given 15 minutes after the initial dose.

Atrial Fibrillation and Flutter

20mg (0.25mg/kg) dose given over 2 minutes

If desired reduction in ventricular rate does not occur, may give 25mg (0.35mg/kg) may be given 15 minutes after the initial dose.

If continued reduction in ventricular rate is required, initiate infusion at 10mg/hr.

Infusion rate may be increased by increments of 5mg/hr up to 15mg/hr. Maximum rate is 15mg/hr. Some patients may require lower doses such as 5mg/hr.

Adverse effects: itching or burning at injection site, vasodilation, flushing, hypotension, swelling and/or edema, headache, dizziness, muscle weakness