

Pharmacologic properties:

Labetalol combines both selective alpha and non-selective beta blocking activity in a single substance. These actions decrease blood pressure without reflex tachycardia and without significant reduction in heart rate.

Indications:

- Hypertensive emergencies in absence of CVA / Brain Attack (Protocol 12).

Contraindications:

- A history of any of the following:
 1. Asthma, emphysema, chronic bronchitis
 2. Congestive heart failure / pulmonary edema
 3. Cardiogenic shock
 4. Heart block > 1° or symptomatic sinus bradycardia
 5. Amphetamines and/or cocaine use

Adverse Reactions:

- Orthostatic hypotension, ventricular dysrhythmia, syncope, bradycardia, heart block, dizziness, headache, tingling of the scalp/skin, numbness, vertigo, wheezing, nausea/vomiting.

Dosage and administration:

Adult

- 10mg SLOW IV over 2 minutes. This dose may be repeated with 10mg SLOW IV after five minutes if necessary to achieve the desired effect (B/P < 200/110 regardless of presence or absence of symptoms).

Pediatric

- Not indicated for pediatric use.