

Pharmacologic properties:

Lasix is a sulfonamide derivative and potent diuretic which inhibits the reabsorption of sodium and chloride in the proximal and distal renal tubules as well as in the loop of Henle. With IV administration the effect is seen before the onset of diuresis, within 10 minutes; peaks in 30 minutes; and has a duration of 2 hours. Lasix also has a direct vasodilating effect in acute pulmonary edema.

Indications:

- Acute pulmonary edema.

Contraindications:

- Lasix is contraindicated in anuria and in patients who are allergic to sulfa. Should be used in pregnancy only when benefits clearly outweigh risks.

Precautions:

- Furosemide should be protected from light. Dehydration and electrolyte imbalance can result from excessive dosages. Rapid diuresis can lead to hypotension and thromboembolic episodes.

Adverse Reactions:

- Dizziness, tinnitus, and hearing loss if administered too fast. Hypotension, pruritus, urticaria, muscle cramping.

Dosage and administration:

Adult

- 40 mg slow IV if patient is not taking a diuretic.
- 80 mg slow IV if patient is taking a diuretic.

Pediatric

- There is no specific pediatric dose.