

**Class**

Antidote, Cyanide Poisoning Adjunct, Nitrate

**Pharmacologic properties**

Amyl nitrite (amyl nitrite inhalant) is a rapidly acting vasodilator administered by inhalation. 0.3mL is supplied in a covered thin glass capsule which is easily crushed between the fingers. Amyl nitrite (amyl nitrite inhalant) is a clear, yellowish liquid having a peculiar ethereal, fruity odor that converts hemoglobin to methemoglobin, which reacts with cyanide and chemically binds with it, preventing any toxic effects.

**Indications**

- For the management of known Hydrogen Sulfide or Cyanide poisonings [Protocol 25](#).

**Contraindications**

- None in the emergency setting

**Side Effects/Adverse Reactions**

- Flushing of the face and a feeling of a "rush" or euphoria, headache, dizziness, weakness, increased ICP, SOB, orthostatic hypotension, tachycardia, syncope, cyanosis of the lips, fingernails, or palms (signs of methemoglobin).

**Dosage and Administration****Adult**

- Break 1-2 ampule inhalants and inhaled for 30 seconds out of every minute.
  - Use a fresh inhalant every few minutes.
  - Discontinue use when preparing to administer Sodium Nitrite.

**Pediatric**

- Break one ampule inhalant and inhaled for 30 seconds out of every minute.
  - Use a fresh inhalant every few minutes.
  - Discontinue use when preparing to administer Sodium Nitrite.