

**Class**

Antidote, Cyanide Poisoning Adjunct

**Pharmacologic Properties**

Nitrite ion reacts and converts hemoglobin to methemoglobin, which binds with the cyanide ion and it chemically binds in order to prevent a toxic effect.

**Indications**

- Cyanide, hydrogen sulfide, or sodium azide poisonings [Protocol 25](#).

**Contraindications**

- No evidence of cyanide poisoning.

**Precautions**

- General side effects have included fatigue, weakness, and diaphoresis.

**Side Effects/Adverse Reactions**

- Nervous system side effects have included generalized numbness and tingling, lightheadedness, headache, dizziness, blurred vision, hypotension, seizures, confusion, and coma.

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

- 300 mg (10 mL of 3% solution) slow IV over 2 – 4 minutes.
  - Dose can be diluted into a 50 mL bag of NS and infused slowly with a 10 gtt (macro) set, run at 2 gtts/sec.

**Pediatric**

- 0.2 mL/kg of 3% solution slow IV (Max dose of 300 mg or 10 mL) over 2 – 4 minutes.
  - Dose can be diluted into a 50 mL bag of NS and infused slowly with a 10 gtt (macro) set, run at 2 gtts/sec.