

## Vasopressin (PITRESSIN®)

- Class:** Vasopressor
- Actions:** Potent  $\alpha$ -agonist in cardiac arrest. Regulates water conservation and causes vasoconstriction as well as  $\uparrow$  smooth muscle activity of the GI tract.
- Rx:** Alternative pressor to epinephrine in treatment of cardiac arrest.
- Contra:** Chronic nephritis w/nitrogen retention, migraine, epilepsy, CHF, asthma, CAD, pregnancy, lactation.
- SE:** Stomach cramps, N/V, angina, diarrhea, trembling, eructation, pallor, confusion, hives, wheezing. Potent vasoconstrictor;  $\uparrow$  peripheral vascular resistance may provoke cardiac ischemia and angina.
- Dosage:** May replace either first or second dose of epinephrine in cardiac arrest patients. One-time dose of 40 U IV/IO.
- Peds:** Not used.
- Notes:** AHA does not recommend using Vasopressin via endotracheal tube.

Supplied in SVMCA Drug Box: 20 U/ml vial