Guidelines for Use of HydrALAZINE (Apresoline®)

Recommended Neonatal Dose, Route, and Interval

- **IV dosing:** Begin with 0.1-0.5 mg/kg/dose IV every 6-8 hours. (Maximum dose: 2mg/kg/dose q 6 hours). Dose may be gradually increased as required for blood pressure control.

- **Oral Dosing:** 0.25-1 mg/kg/dose PO every 6-8 hours, or approximately twice the required IV dose.

Chief Indications

- Treatment of mild to moderate neonatal hypertension by vasodilatation.

Possible Adverse Reactions

- Tachycardia, postural hypotension
- Diarrhea and emesis
- Temporary agranulocytosis
- Lupus like syndrome
- Pyridoxine deficiency (paresthesia, numbness)

CONTRAINDICATIONS/PRECAUTIONS:

- Hypersensitivity to hydralazine

Nursing Implications

- Monitor heart rate and blood pressure per NICU guidelines
- Guaiac stools
- Give oral dose with the nearest feed

References:
1. Neofax 2010

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