



LIDOCAINE (injection)

RATIONALE FOR INCLUSION IN PA PROGRAM

Background

Lidocaine is a local anesthetic and a class 1b antiarrhythmic agent. It acts by suppressing electrical conduction across cell membranes, resulting in its cardiac and anesthetic effects. Lidocaine injection is FDA-approved for use as a local or regional anesthetic administered by infiltration, nerve block, epidural, or spinal techniques. Lidocaine is also used for acute ventricular arrhythmias and has shown to be effective in the treatment of refractory status epilepticus as an off-label indication (1-3).

Other off-label uses of lidocaine include intractable cough, prophylaxis of fentanyl-associated cough, hiccups, and chronic (including neuropathic) pain (2).

Regulatory Status

FDA-approved indication: Lidocaine hydrochloride injection is indicated for production of local or regional anesthesia by infiltration techniques such as percutaneous injection and intravenous regional anesthesia by peripheral nerve block techniques such as brachial plexus and intercostal and by central neural techniques such as lumbar and caudal epidural blocks, when the accepted procedures for these techniques as described in standard textbooks are observed (1).

Lidocaine is also used for ventricular arrhythmias and status epilepticus (2-3).

Summary

Lidocaine injection is a local anesthetic that is used as a class 1b antiarrhythmic agent. It is FDA-approved for use in ventricular arrhythmias and also as a local or regional anesthetic when administered by infiltration, nerve block, epidural, or spinal techniques. Lidocaine is also used for status epilepticus (1-3).

Prior authorization is required to ensure the safe, clinically appropriate, and cost-effective use of Lidocaine while maintaining optimal therapeutic outcomes.

References

1. Lidocaine injection [package insert]. Schaumburg, IL: APP Pharmaceuticals LLC; February 2010.



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2. American Heart Association. ACLS Provider Manual Supplementary Material. Updated 2016. https://ahainstructornetwork.americanheart.org/idc/groups/ahaecc-public/@wcm/@ecc/documents/downloadable/ucm_481402.pdf. Accessed on April 14, 2023.
3. Anderson Walker L & Slovis CM: Lidocaine in the treatment of status epilepticus. Acad Emerg Med. 1997; 4(9):918-922.