

<b>Medication:</b> Furosemide	<b>PDN:</b> 6933.05	<b>Last Updated:</b> March 27 2023	<b>PMD:</b> Andrew Travers*	<b>PDC:</b> Tanya Fraser*	Page 1 of 2
-------------------------------	---------------------	---------------------------------------	--------------------------------	------------------------------	-------------

## FUROSEMIDE (Lasix)

### 1.0 Classification

- Diuretic

### 2.0 Mechanism of Action

- Inhibits sodium reabsorption by the kidneys, causing diuresis; the vasodilatory effect reduces cardiac workload.

### 3.0 Indications

- May be given for interfacility transfers as requested by a physician or under the guidelines of an integrated health program for patients with fluid overload.

### 4.0 Contraindications

- Pregnancy
- Known hypersensitivity to furosemide or sulphonamide diuretics
- Hypovolemia or hypotension
- Anuric renal failure

### 5.0 Precautions

- Administration of furosemide to patients with pneumonia increases mortality; it can be difficult to distinguish heart failure from other conditions such as pneumonia therefore should not be given until patient has been diagnosed with fluid overload.
- Administer furosemide with caution in patients with a fever (temperature greater than 38°C), as fever often indicates an infectious process such as sepsis or pneumonia and these patients should not receive furosemide.

### 6.0 Route

- May be given IV

### 7.0 Dosage

#### Adult

- 40 mg slow IV push or as directed by the physician.

### 8.0 Supplied

- 40 mg in a 4 mL vial (10 mg/mL)

### 9.0 May Be Given By

- ACP/CCP

### 10.0 Adverse Effects

- Hypotension
- Arrhythmias
- Potassium depletion

- Dizziness
- Nausea and vomiting

### **11.0 Special Notes**

- Heart failure responds best to nitrates and positive pressure (e.g., CPAP/PEEP); furosemide is a 3<sup>rd</sup> line agent.
- Pregnancy category C [if the patient will benefit from a Category C drug, it is generally used]

### **12.0 References**

- Adult Respiratory Distress Clinical Practice Guideline
- Compendium of Pharmaceuticals and Specialties (CPS)

\*Electronically Signed

Copyright © Emergency Health Services