

IV GTN PROTOCOL FOR EARLY MANAGEMENT OF HYPERTENSION IN ACUTE STROKE (for use in thrombectomy pathway) (up to 48 hours)

Target BP :
Ischaemic Stroke Thrombolysis less than 185/110mmHg

Systolic blood pressure above relevant threshold for TWO consecutive readings

Start GTN INFUSION at 1.2 ml/hr

Measure BP & HR: 5, 10, 20 & 30 mins after infusion starts and/or after any rate change, then every 30 mins thereafter (1 hourly if no rate change for 1 hr)

CONTINUE GTN INFUSION RATE
If target achieved
Ischaemic 160-185mmHg

TAPER GTN INFUSION RATE
(by 0.3ml/hr)
Ischaemic SBP less than 160mmHg

STOP GTN INFUSION
SBP less than 110mmHg
(Monitor BP closely)

SBP less than Target?

TITRATE GTN INFUSION RATE
If SBP remains above target, increase rate by 0.6ml/hr

NO

If BP greater than target at 12ml/hr, contact Stroke team

Rate at max 12ml/hr

NO

Aim to wean off GTN infusion within 48 hours.
Once infusion stopped- titrate oral/NG medications rather than restarting infusion.