

# Western Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee

<b>Title: Erectile Dysfunction Medications and Nitrates (Nitroglycerin)</b>	<b>Policy #1998-4</b>
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<b>Effective Date:</b>	June 1998								
<b>Reviewed:</b>	June 2009	November 2017							
<b>Updated:</b>									

<b>Policy:</b>	Because of the potential side effects of patients taking erectile dysfunction medications who receive Nitrates, the following procedure is in effect.
<b>Procedure:</b>	<p>A history of use of erectile dysfunction medication must be ascertained in both male and female patients who complain of chest pain.</p> <p>The use of nitrates in a patient who has taken either Levitra (vardenafil) and Viagra (sildenafil) within the last 12 hours is contraindicated.</p> <p>The use of nitrates in a patient who has taken Cialis (tadalafil) within the last 48 hours is contraindicated.</p> <p>If the patient has taken an erectile dysfunction medication, and is having chest pain, medical control is to be contacted <b>BEFORE ADMINISTERING NITROGLYCERIN PER PROTOCOL.</b></p> <p>The administration of Nitroglycerin to a patient that has taken an erectile dysfunction medication can result in severe refractory hypotension leading to death and must be carefully considered.</p>
<b>Reference:</b>	Memorandum sent out by Dr. Gregory E. Young to all agencies, June 25, 1998.