Guidelines for Management of Hypertension
In Acute Ischemic Stroke Patients Eligible, During and After Treatment
with IV t-PA

If patient is otherwise considered eligible for treatment with IV t-PA and SBP >185 mm Hg or DBP >110 mm Hg:

- Start treatment to decrease BP with one of the following before starting t-PA:
  - Labetalol 10 - 20 mg IV over 1-2 minutes; may repeat once
  - Nicardipine infusion at 5 mg/h,
    - Titrate up by 2.5 mg/h at 5 to 15 minute intervals
    - Maximum dose 15 mg/h
    - When desired blood pressure is attained, reduce to 3 mg/h

- If SBP remains >185 mm Hg or DBP remains > 110 mm Hg – Do not administer IV t-PA

Management of Blood Pressure During and After Treatment With IV t-PA

- Monitor BP:
  - Every 15 minutes during t-PA infusion and for 2 hours after infusion
  - Then every 30 minutes for 6 hours
  - Then every hour for 16 hours

- Maintain SBP <180 mm Hg and DBP <105 mm Hg

- If SBP is > 180 mm Hg or DBP is > 105 mm Hg give:
  - Labetalol 10 mg IV over 1-2 minutes. May repeat every 10 -20 minutes up to maximum dose of 300 mg/day
  - Nicardipine infusion at 5 mg/h; titrate up to desired effect by increasing 2.5 mg/h every 5 minutes to maximum dose of 15 mg/h


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