

Severe Hypertension
Systolic \geq 160 mm Hg or Diastolic \geq 110 mm Hg (Persists $>$ 15 minutes)

First Line Agents

No IV Access

IV Antihypertensive Medications

PO Antihypertensive Medications

IV Magnesium Sulfate
 (seizure prophylaxis)

- Magnesium Sulfate** 10 grams of 50% solution IM (5 grams in each buttock) if no IV access
- If IV access is not yet obtained in a pregnant or postpartum woman with severe hypertension, administer:
 - **200 mg of labetalol orally** or
 - **10 mg of nifedipine orally** (not for sublingual use)
 - Repeat in 30 minutes if systolic blood pressure remains \geq 160 or diastolic blood pressure \geq 110 and intravenous access still unavailable

IV Labetalol

IV Hydralazine

PO Nifedipine

Magnesium Sulfate 20 grams/ 500 ml bag
Initial: IV Bolus **4-6 grams** in 100-150 ml over 20 minutes
Maintenance: **1-2 grams** per hour IV infusion

Give **20 mg IV** over 2 minutes

5 mg or 10 mg IV over 2 minutes

Give **10 mg** orally

Repeat BP in 10 minutes, if Severe Range

Repeat BP in 10 minutes and again in 20 minutes. If Severe range at 20 minutes

Repeat BP measurement in 20 minutes and record results. If Severe range

Give **40 mg IV** over 2 minutes

Give **10 mg IV** over 2 minutes

Give **20 mg** orally

Repeat BP in 10 minutes, if Severe Range

Repeat BP in 10 and 20 minutes. If severe range at 20 minutes

If BP is below threshold, continue to monitor BP closely. Repeat BP measurement in 20 minutes and record results. If Severe range

Give **80 mg IV** over 2 minutes

Give **Labetalol** 20 mg IV over 2 minutes

Give **20 mg** orally

Repeat BP in 10 minutes, if Severe Range,

Repeat BP in 10 minutes. If severe range,

If BP is below threshold, continue to monitor BP closely. Repeat BP measurement in 20 minutes and record results. If Severe Range

Give **Hydralazine** 10 mg IV over 2 minutes

Give **Labetalol** 40 mg IV over 2 minutes

Give **Labetalol** (40 mg intravenously over 2 minutes)

Repeat BP in 10 minutes and again in 20 minutes

If Severe range – Call MFM, Internal Medicine, Anesthesia or Critical Care

Second Line Agents:

Give additional antihypertensive medication per specific order as recommended by specialist.

(Anticonvulsant medications (for recurrent seizures or when magnesium is contraindicated):

- Lorazepam (2-4 mg IV x 1, may repeat x 1 after 10-15 minutes)
- Diazepam (5-10 mg IV every 5-10 minutes to maximum dose 30 mg)
- Phenytoin (15-20 mg/kg IV x 1, may repeat 10 mg/kg IV after 20 minutes if no response); avoid with hypotension, may cause cardiac arrhythmias
- Keppra (500 mg IV or orally, may repeat in 12 hours); dose adjustment needed if renal impairment
- Antenatal corticosteroids if $<$ 34 weeks of gestation