INTENSIVE Treatment Titration

Nicardipine Drip Study Drug Titration Chart Goal: Reduce blood pressure and maintain SBP in range of 110-140 mm Hg (Target 120 mmHg)				
Elapsed time in: Hours:minutes from start of nicardipine drip infusion	SBP, in mm Hg (use final of multiple readings)	Nicardipine, mg/hour	Nicardipine 20mg/200 mL drip rate in mL/hour	Comments
00:00	>180 & <240	5 (initial rate)	50	**Monitor BP at least every 5 minutes through titration phases. Randomization may take place following start of drip if still within 4.5 hours of syptom onset, initial SBP falls within 180-240mm Hg range and did not fall below 180mm Hg spontaneously, and SBP did not fall below 140mm Hg following start of drip and prior to randomization**
00:15	If still >140*	Increase to 7.5	75	**Monitor BP every 5-15 minutes** **Once patient reaches SBP goal of <140 mm Hg (target 120), titrate downward by 1-2.5mg/hour to keep SBP within 110-140mm Hg range*** **If SBP falls below 110mm Hg, stop nicardipine and give NS fluid bolus.** **For patients with elevated ICP, MAP should not fall below 100 without notifying physician and CPP should not fall below 70**
00:30	If still >140*	Increase to 10	100	
00:45	If still >140*	Increase to 12.5	125	
01:00	If still >140*	Increase to 15 (maximum rate)	150 (max rate)	
01:15	If still >140*	Monitor at 15	150 (max rate)	
01:30	If still >140*	Use labetalol 5-20mg IV bolus q 15 min in addition to max rate for 1 hour	150	**Check lines; second drug (labetalol) is added if patient not responding sufficiently**
> 02:30	If still > 140*	Consider 3rd drug option	150	**Again check lines; consider 3rd drug option if still showing insufficient response to max doses of nicardipine + labetalol** **Once patient has stable BP within target range, monitor BP every 30 min for 24 hours**
***Once the upper target SBP (140 mm Hg for the intensive treatment group) is reached, infusion rate of nicardipine is adjusted by 1-2.5 mg/hour to maintain SBP within the target range of 110-140 mm Hg** (Target 120 mmHg)				