Norepinephrine (Levophed)

**Indications:** Acute hypotension, shock

**Contra-indications:** Hypersensitivity, ventricular fibrillation, tachy-dysrhythmias. Generally contra-indicated in hypovolemia.

**Adverse Effects:** Dizziness, palpitations, tachycardia, HTN, PVC=, angina, nausea, vomiting, necrosis, tissue sloughing with extravasation, dyspnea, decreased urine output.

**Administration:** Start at 0.05 – 0.1 mcg/kg/min. Titrate until patient=s systolic BP is > 90 mmHg. Maximum dose is 2 mcg/kg/min.

**MICU Directives:**

1. Follow generalized protocol for MICU transports.
2. If possible, administer through large vein (i.e., antecubital), central line is preferred. A second peripheral line of NS or LR is also preferred.
3. Monitor blood pressure every 5-10 minutes.
4. Frequently assess for undesirable effects of increased preload and afterload.
5. Caution in use with patients with MI, as may increase infarct.