

Standard Operating Procedure - Test Dose Enalapril

Enalapril is a medication that belongs to a group of drugs called ACE inhibitors.

Enalapril works by relaxing the small arteries in the heart which reduces blood pressure therefore making the heart work more effectively.

When children are started on Enalapril for the 1st time they are admitted to ward 3c as a day case for their first dose which is known as a test dose.

This is because Enalapril starts working straight away and all children require monitoring to ensure their blood pressure does not become too low and to decide what the correct dose is for them.

Procedure

Admit child using day case admission documentation.

Obtain baseline observations which are – Temperature, pulse, blood pressure, respiratory rate and oxygen saturations.

Obtain height and weight.

Child will be required to be assessed by medical staff and clerked in.

Enalapril will be prescribed by medical staff.

The child will require to stay on the ward for 4-6 hours post dose and observations will require to be checked every 30 minutes.

Child can be discharged once medical staff have reviewed blood pressures and prescribed correct dose for home.

Possible Side Effects

Low blood pressure – when starting on Enalapril children can sometimes become dizzy

Skin rash

Dry cough

Nausea

Strange taste sensation in mouth (usually only for a short period of time)

Report **ANY** concerns to medical staff.

