

Nitroprusside

Because of the ability of sodium nitroprusside (SNP) to dilate cerebral [blood vessels](#), intracranial pressure (ICP) should increase with its use. In patients with vascular intracranial tumors following SNP (0.01%) infusion, ICP increased from 14.58 +/- 1.85 to 27.61 +/- 3.33 torr (p greater than 0.0005) and cerebral perfusion pressure decreased from 89.32 +/- 3.5 to 43.23 +/- 4.60 torr (p less than 0.0005) when the mean arterial pressure had reduced by 33%. These results suggest that SNP not be used in patients with raised ICP unless previous measures have been taken to improve intracranial compliance ¹⁾.

¹⁾

Cottrell JE, Patel K, Turndorf H, Ransohoff J. Intracranial pressure changes induced by sodium nitroprusside in patients with intracranial mass lesions. J Neurosurg. 1978 Mar;48(3):329-31. PubMed PMID: 632856.

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