

# FIRST LINE THERAPIES

EXAMPLE

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- Intravenous labetalol
- Intravenous hydralazine
- Oral nifedipine

## **Magnesium sulfate not recommended as antihypertensive agent**

- Should be used for: seizure prophylaxis and controlling seizures in eclampsia
- IV bolus of 4-6 grams in 100 ml over 20 minutes, followed by IV infusion of 1-2 grams per hour. **Continue for 24 hours postpartum**
- If no IV access, 10 grams of 50% solution IM (5 g in each buttock)
- Contraindications: pulmonary edema, renal failure, myasthenia gravis

## **Anticonvulsants (for recurrent seizures or when magnesium is C/I):**

- **Lorazepam:** 2-4 mg IV x 1, may repeat x 1 after 10-15 min
- **Diazepam:** 5-10 mg IV every 5-10 min to max dose 30 mg
- **Phenytoin:** 15-20 mg/kg IV x 1, may repeat 10 mg/kg IV after 20 min 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.

*\*There may be adverse effects and additional contraindications. Clinical judgement should prevail*