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| --- |
| **Stadium Medical****Emergency Medical Services** |
| Star of Life Symbol |
| **CLINICAL PROTOCOLS FOR INTERFACILITY TRANSPORT** |
| **Version 1.0.0****These protocols are effective 6/01/2025** |

Table of Contents

[Protocol Versioning scheme 2](#_Toc193360293)

[1000 INTRODUCTION 3](#_Toc193360294)

[1010 iNTERFACILITY TRANSPORTs 4](#_Toc193360295)

[1020 Transfer Orders 5](#_Toc193360296)

[1030 Patient Monitored Therapies 6](#_Toc193360297)

[1040 Out of protocol Transport REquests 7](#_Toc193360298)

[2000 Interfacility Procedures 8](#_Toc193360299)

[2010 Urinary Catheter Monitoring 9](#_Toc193360300)

[2020 Gastric Tube Maintanence 10](#_Toc193360301)

[2030 Central Venous Catheter Maintanence 11](#_Toc193360302)

[2040 Chest Tube Maintenance 12](#_Toc193360303)

[2050 Mechanical Ventilation – LTV 1200 14](#_Toc193360304)

[3000 Interfacility Medications 18](#_Toc193360305)

[3010 Medication administration – safety 19](#_Toc193360306)

[3020 Medication Adminstration – Patient Care Report Documentation 20](#_Toc193360307)

[3030 Activase (alteplase) 21](#_Toc193360308)

[3040 Amiodarone 23](#_Toc193360309)

[3050 Antibiotics and antivirals 24](#_Toc193360310)

[3060 Blood/ Blood Products 25](#_Toc193360311)

[3070 Calcium 28](#_Toc193360312)

[3080 Cardene (Nicardipine) 29](#_Toc193360313)

[3090 Cardizem (diltiazem) 30](#_Toc193360314)

[3100 Dopamine 31](#_Toc193360315)

[3110 Epinephrine infusion 33](#_Toc193360316)

[3120 Heparin 34](#_Toc193360317)

[3130 Insulin 37](#_Toc193360318)

[3140 Ketamine 38](#_Toc193360319)

[3150 Lidocaine 39](#_Toc193360320)

[3160 Magnesium Sulfate 40](#_Toc193360321)

[3170 Multivitamin Infusion 41](#_Toc193360322)

[3180 Nitroglycerin 42](#_Toc193360323)

[3190 Norepinephrine (Levophed) 44](#_Toc193360324)

[3200 Oxytocin 46](#_Toc193360325)

[3210 Parenteral Nutrition 47](#_Toc193360326)

[3220 Potassium Infusion 49](#_Toc193360327)

[3230 Protonix (Pantoprazole sodium) 50](#_Toc193360328)

[3240 REMDESIVIR (VEKLURY) 51](#_Toc193360329)

[3250 Sandostatin (Octreotide acetate) 52](#_Toc193360330)

[3260 TNKase (Tenecteplase) 53](#_Toc193360331)

[4000 Interfacility OBSTETRIC Transports 54](#_Toc193360332)

[4010 General Guidelines for Assessment and Treatment of the obstetric patient 55](#_Toc193360333)

[4020 Contraindications to Maternal Transport 56](#_Toc193360334)

[4030 Specific Information Needed 57](#_Toc193360335)

[4040 Specific Objective Findings 58](#_Toc193360336)

[4050 Fetal distress 59](#_Toc193360337)

[4060 Postpartum Hemorrhage 60](#_Toc193360338)

[4070 Pregnancy Induced Hypertension (PIH) 61](#_Toc193360339)

[Appendix A. Common Lab Values 63](#_Toc193360340)

Protocol Versioning scheme

* + 1. Protocol Versions

#### All further revisions will be numbered in the x.y.z scheme as follows:

##### A change to the number in position x reflects significant changes to the protocols, including:

###### A complete review and revision of the protocols

###### Major additions to the protocols

###### Any other change determined to be sufficiently significant in nature as to necessitate a whole number change in protocol version number.

##### A change to the number in position y reflects a minor change to the protocols, including:

###### Addition or deletion of protocols

###### Changes to the wording or content of individual protocols, such as a change in drug dosages

###### Any other change determined to be greater in scope than a z number change, but lesser than an x number change

##### A change to the number in position z reflects a very minor change, including:

###### Fixed grammatical errors

###### Changed page numbering

###### Any other change determined to be insignificant to the meaning or usage of the protocols

* + 1. Historical tracking of protocol changes

#### Each protocol version, including any changes in z numbering will be saved as a locked, protected document.

#### An accompanying master protocol changes list will be kept. This list will detail what changes were made in each revision number change.

# INTRODUCTION

The following protocols define the rules of medical care for Stadium Medical EMS providers during interfacility transport; (for prehospital treatment refer to the Denver Metro EMS Medical Director’s protocols). These protocols delineate the expected practice, actions, and procedures of EMS providers during interfacility transport. When protocol variance occurs it should be approached in a logical and knowledgeable manner, done in the best interests of the patient, and well documented. In essence, it should be done “in good faith.” Deviation from the protocols is occasionally necessary due to the vast array of complex clinical presentations. It should always be done with the patient’s best interest in mind and backed with documentation and defendable clinical reasoning and judgment. Deviations will be reviewed by the Medical Director and require the completion of an unusual circumstance report. Please remember that protocols define process; people provide care.

In the protocols, there are acts allowed tables. An “X” in the box below the provider level indicates this is an act allowed by the Medical Director. The following is an example of the table:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Acts Allowed Table | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Treatment, medication, or procedure listed here | X | X | X | X | X | X |

“P+” indicates paramedic level procedure/medications that require additional training before a provider is eligible to attend on the transport.

“Adv” indicates advanced paramedic level procedures/medications that have been outside of the Colorado scope of practice that the Medical Director has obtained a waiver specifically for select providers to perform.

## iNTERFACILITY TRANSPORTs

### Type of Interfacility Requests

Interfacility transport requests can be broken down into the following categories:

#### Stable patients with therapies within the scope of these protocols

##### These transports do not require any special considerations and are considered routine.

#### Stable patients with therapies outside the scope of these protocols

##### No treatment outside of protocol should be provided, however, these patients may still be transported provided the requirements in [Patient Monitored Therapies](#PATIENTMONITOREDTHERAPIES) or [Out of Protocol Transport Requests](#OUTOFPROTOCOL) protocols are met.

##### Complete an unusual circumstances report for any requests for therapies outside of protocol.

#### Unstable patient

##### Hemodynamically unstable patients may require special monitoring (i.e. CVP, ICP), multiple cardioactive/vasoactive medications, or specialized critical care equipment (i.e. intra-aortic balloon pump). Unstable patients should be referred to a specialty care program experienced in the management of acutely ill and/or complex patient therapies whenever possible. [Code of Colorado Regulations, 6 CCR 1015-3, Chapter 2, Section 16.4](http://www.sos.state.co.us/CCR/DisplayRule.do?action=ruleinfo&ruleId=2484&deptID=16&agencyID=144&deptName=1000%20Department%20of%20Public%20Health%20and%20Environment&agencyName=1011%20Health%20Facilities%20and%20Emergency%20Medical%20Services%20Division%252)

##### There are instances where a specialty care program is not available and the responding unit may be called upon to transport a patient requiring time sensitive definintive care at another facility

###### The responding crew, with assistance of the Stadium Medical operations staff, should ensure reasonable attempts have been made to locate a specialty care program able to provide the transport.

###### If a specialty care program is unavailable and the patient therapies are within the scope of these protocols the patient may be transported by responding unit.

###### If a specialty care program is unavailable and the patient has any therapies outside of protocol scope refer to protocol [Out of Protocol Transport Requests](#OUTOFPROTOCOL)

###### If the criteria of [Out of Protocol Transport Requests](#OUTOFPROTOCOL) cannot be met, the patient must remain at the sending facility for transport by a specialty care program.

##### For the transport of any potentially unstable patient, consider an addition of supplemental personnel to ensure at least two providers are available to care for the patient in addition to the vehicle operator.

##### Consider rendezvous with a specialty care program enroute.

#### Physician office to an out of county facility

##### Be prepared to run these calls more like a 911. We often arrive to pick up a patient who is not receiving immediately needed interventions or assessment.

##### Patients should have transfer orders from the sending physician for out of county transports. Like any other interfacility transport, make sure that you have reviewed the orders prior to departure and ensure that they comply with protocol.

##### Confirm there is a receiving physician.

##### Also confirm the sending facility has contacted the receiving facility with a patient report and there is a bed available for the patient. The bed assignment should be documented on the transfer orders.

##### If you have concerns about the appropriateness of the transport, contact Medical Control. It is up to the discretion of the provider to divert to the closest appropriate facility within the county per the destination guideline.

### Training Requirement

#### Even though a patient therapy exists in this protocol, if a provider has not received the appropriate training they cannot provide care to the patient.

#### Any protocol marked for “P+” requires completion of additional training prior to the provider being allowed to attend.

#### Any protocol marked for “Adv” is limited to a small number of providers who have received the appropriate training.

### EMS Provider Right to Decline a Transport

An EMS provider may decline to transport any patient that they deem to require a level of care beyond their capabilities.

“The transporting EMS provider may decline to transport any patient he or she believes requires a level of care beyond his or her capabilities.” [Code of Colorado Regulations, 6 CCR 1015-3, Chapter 2, Section 16.2](http://www.sos.state.co.us/CCR/DisplayRule.do?action=ruleinfo&ruleId=2484&deptID=16&agencyID=144&deptName=1000%20Department%20of%20Public%20Health%20and%20Environment&agencyName=1011%20Health%20Facilities%20and%20Emergency%20Medical%20Services%20Division%252)

## Transfer Orders

The goal is to continue care based on the physician’s assessment. To accomplish this, the sending physician needs to provide clear and concise orders that provide guidance and restrictions. In addition, interfacility transports are governed by EMTALA (Emergency Medical Treatment & Active Labor Act); the following information provides guidance to abide by this law.

### The Basics of Transfer Orders

#### Physician transfer orders provide guidance on:

##### Maintaining, initiating, and discontinuing treatments

##### Patient monitoring during transport (e.g. ECG, continuous pulse oximetry)

#### Transfer orders must be completed and signed by a physician. The physician is also responsible for making any edits to the transfer orders.

#### A nurse may not provide or edit orders without physician review and approval.

#### A nurse practitioner or physician’s assistant can provide transfer orders. These orders should be reviewed by a physician. Document if orders were reviewed verbally by a physician.

### Level of care to be provided

#### If the sending physician requires ALS-Paramedic level of care, it must be noted on the written orders.

#### The physician must cross out and initial any orders that are out of the scope of the attending provider’s protocols.

### Review Transfer Orders

#### Review transfer orders prior to leaving the sending medical facility. If the physician has not provided clear and concise orders, ask him/her to clarify.

#### There are circumstances where the physician can only provide verbal changes to the written orders. Verify the verbal orders by repeating them back to the sending physician and document them as “verbal orders” in the PCR narrative.

### Medications

####  Medication orders must include the following

##### Name of the medication

##### Route of administration

##### Dose to be administered (including dosing units)

##### Approved time intervals for administration, if applicable

##### Indication for administration (ex. Fentanyl for pain, Valium for muscle spasms)

##### Parameters for administration (e.g. maintain blood pressure above 100 mmHg systolic, maintain oxygen saturation greater than 90%)

##### Guidance on infusion maintenance

###### If titratable, parameters for titration

###### If infusion to be finished while en-route, document any specific actions required after completion

### Procedure Maintenance

#### Physicians need to provide written guidance for the maintenance or monitoring of procedures initiated at the sending facility (e.g. continuous, intermittent, or no suction for a nasogastric tube).

### Changing Orders En-route

#### Sometimes, unforeseen circumstances occur requiring a change in transfer orders. Try to contact the sending physician first. If the sending physician is not available, contact Medical Control for orders.

## Patient Monitored Therapies

Some medications, nutrition systems, and medical devices, both prehospital and interfacility, can be transported even though we do not have training, experience, or a protocol to monitor, adjust, or discontinue. These medications and medical devices are things a patient, with minimal instruction from a healthcare provider, can self monitor at home.

### 911 Calls

#### If a medication, nutrition system, or medical device is encountered during a 911call, transport remembering you are not responsible to manage, alter, or discontinue these items.

#### For any problems with a patient monitored medication or device follow these steps:

##### Talk to the patient and/or caregiver about what is occurring with the medication or device.

##### Review therapy information, if available. Most of these products have information cards with the therapy/device.

##### Contact Medical Control for orders before altering or discontinuing the therapy/device.

### Interfacility Transport

#### If a medication, nutrition system, or a medical device in a healthcare facility (hospital, clinic, etc.) is a therapy that may be monitored by the patient or a caretaker (someone who is not a healthcare provider), talk to the sending physician and verify the patient or a caretaker could monitor the therapy outside of a healthcare facility. Contact Medical Control for orders before altering or discontinuing the therapy/device.

### Level of Attendant

#### For 911 calls, if a patient monitored medication or device is managed daily by the patient, family member or aid it may be appropriate for a BLS attendant. If a physician or nurse must monitor/adjust the medication or device daily it is an ALS call. Remember, it is always better to be cautious and defer to the higher-level of care.

#### For interfacility transports, it is up to the sending physician to determine what level of care is needed. The sending physician must document the level of provider on the transfer orders.

## Out of protocol Transport REquests

The following provides guidance when a facility requests a transport outside of protocol. ***An unusual circumstance report must be submitted for all therapy requests outside of protocol.***

**Presence of adverse weather conditions, road closures, construction or traffic delays, time of day, condition of transport crew, or potential for patient condition to deteriorate and ability to provide foreseeable treatment during transport. Refer to the Ground Risk Assessment Tool.**

**Safe to Transport?**

**Transport**

Within protocol?

Can transport be delayed until finish of therapy?

Alternative therapy within protocol?

Discontinue therapy?

Add facility staff to crew?

**Refer Transport to a Specialty Care Program**

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

No

No

No

No

**Contact Stadium Ops**

No

Yes

# Interfacility Procedures

## Urinary Catheter Monitoring

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Urinary Catheter Monitoring | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Interfacility Transport – Standing order | X | X | X | X | X | X |

### Description

#### For the monitoring of a urinary catheter that is inserted prior to arrival of a physician ordered interfacility transport

#### Types of urinary catheters:

##### Foley catheter – soft tube inserted into the bladder through the urethra with a balloon near the end which is filled with sterile water inside the bladder to keep the catheter in place

##### Suprapubic catheter – catheter inserted through the abdominal wall by a physician when a catheter cannot be inserted through the urethra

### Indications

#### The indication for use is determined by the sending physician and may include:

##### Temporary management of a dysfunctional bladder

##### Postoperative care

##### Accurate measurement of urinary output

##### For spinal column/cord injury or the inability to rule it out at sending facility

### Procedure

#### Verify sending nurse catheter is patent and secured, obtain a copy of the nurses documentation and document the size and type of catheter used

#### Measure and document urinary output, urine color, and if urine is cloudy/malodorous prior to transport

#### Assess for:

##### Bladder distention

##### Leakage of urine around the catheter

##### Pain and bladder spasms

##### Hematuria and bleeding around catheter

#### Confirm and document that the catheter is properly secured to the patient (either leg or abdomen) prior to moving.

#### After patient is transferred to ambulance, place the drainage bag below the level of the patient’s bladder and correct any kinking of the drainage tubing

#### While en-route, assess for continued output and any complications

##### Adequate urine output

###### Adult ≈ 30mL/hour

###### Pediatric ≈ 1-2mL/kg/hour

#### Upon arrival at receiving facility measure and document the urinary output and any changes in urine color and if cloudy/malodorous

### Complications

#### Occlusion of the catheter by clot, tissue, or mucous

#### Some people have discomfort from the catheter being in the urethra or experience bladder spasms; have the sending facility treat the discomfort (e.g., medication, insertion of a smaller catheter) prior to departure

#### Dislodgement of the catheter can cause bleeding and trauma to the urethra, notify the receiving facility if this occurs

#### Catheterization can be a major cause of urinary tract infection

## Gastric Tube Maintanence

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Gastric Tube Maintenance | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Interfacility Transport – Written physician order |  |  |  | X | X | X |

### Indication

#### To maintain and use an established nasogastric or orogastric tube during transport

### Procedure

#### Verify tube placement was confirmed with an x-ray.

#### Disconnect patient from suction

#### Assure patency and placement of tube by instilling at least 30mL of air into the tube while auscultation with a stethoscope over the stomach

#### Confirm tube is secured to the patient before moving

#### Follow the sending physician orders:

##### Low continuous suction (30-40mmHg) or intermittent suction ≤ 120mmHg

##### With Levine tube, or if continuous suction is not required, place a 60mL Toomey syringe on the outlet, aspirate for air and gastric contents every 10 minutes, and document any changes.

#### Restrain patient’s hands if you anticipate any problems with the patient pulling the tube

#### Document description and amount of output before and after the transport

### Complications

#### In the event the tube becomes dislodged or removed during transport, document the time and integrity of the tube and notify the receiving facility

## Central Venous Catheter Maintanence

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Central Venous Catheter Maintenance | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Interfacility Transport – Written physician order |  |  | X | X | X | X |

### Purpose

#### Maintain catheter patency

#### Administration of IV fluids, medications, and blood products through central venous catheters

### Procedure

#### Complete the central venous catheter section of the transport checklist prior to departure

#### Have sending physician or nurse initial each of these items on the checklist prior to departure:

##### Catheter placement is confirmed by x-ray or documented physician statement

##### Catheter secured with tape and suture

##### Insertion site is covered with sterile dressing

##### All lines and ports not in use are clamped and locked

|  |
| --- |
| Catheter Care |
| Flush Solution | Normal saline 10 mL |
| Flush Procedure | * Flush before and after each medication administration
* After flushing clamp lumen ***prior to syringe removal***
 |
| Syringe Size | Do not use syringe smaller than 10 mL |
| Ordered Rate | When “to keep open” (TKO) or “keep vein open” (KVO) rate ordered and not specified use 25 mL/hour for adults and 10 mL/hour for 1-12 years old |

### Examples of central venous catheters include

#### Non-tunneled catheters

##### Short central venous catheters inserted via the subclavian, jugular, or femoral approach

##### For short term use

#### Tunneled catheters

##### Venous catheter inserted into a central vein and subcutaneously tunneled to an exit site approximately 10 cm from insertion site

##### Examples include Broviac, Groshong®, and Hickman

#### PICC

##### Peripherally inserted catheter for use long-term use (longer than 1 week)

#### Implanted port

##### Venous catheter that is accessed through a port placed in the subcutaneous tissue usually on the chest wall

##### Examples include Port-A-Cath®, Smart Port®, and Bard PowerPort®

##### Must use non-coring (Huber) needle to access implanted port

###### Verify if it is a Bard PowerPort® which must be accessed with the appropriate Power needle

### Complications

#### In the event the catheter becomes dislodged or severed during transport, immediately stop all infusions and place a clamp between the damaged portion of the catheter and patient. Notify receiving facility.

#### Should the catheter become completely dislodged during transport apply pressure to the insertion site and maintain seal with Vaseline gauze or tape and sterile dressing. Save the catheter and notify the receiving facility.

#### If the flow to the infusion(s) becomes positional or stops double check the equipment, attempt to reposition the patient, and notify the receiving facility.

## Chest Tube Maintenance

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Chest Tube Maintenance | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Interfacility Transport – Written physician order |  |  |  |  | X | X |

### Purpose

#### Maintaining chest tube patency

#### Maintaining chest tube drainage systems

### Types of Chest Tube Drainage Systems

#### Drainage system seal types:

##### Water seal system

###### Water is used to allow air from pleural space to escape during exhalation but not enter during inspiration

###### Drainage system must be upright at all times to maintain air seal

##### Dry seal

###### Utilizes a one way valve to allow air from pleural space to escape during exhalation but not enter during inspiration

###### Does not require the system to be upright to maintain air seal

#### Suction controls

##### Water suction controls

###### Amount of suction controlled by height of water in the suction control chamber

##### Dry suction control

###### Does not require water to adjust suction pressure levels

###### Will generally allow for higher suction pressures than water suction systems

##### Typical suction level

###### 20 cm H2O for adult

###### For children and patient’s with weak lung tissue amount of suction is generally lower than the recommended adult setting

#### HeimLich valve / Atrium Pneumostat™

##### Flutter valve systems only used to maintain seal and not intended for drainage collection

### Procedures

#### Perform hand hygiene and use personal protective equipment for possible bodily fluid exposure

#### Maintain chest tube patency

##### **NEVER** clamp off the chest tube

##### **DO NOT MILK CHEST TUBE**

##### Ensure the tube has been secured with suture, tape, and is sealed with non-occlusive dressing around chest tube

##### Keep all equipment and tubes below the level of the patient’s chest in order to prevent reflux of drainage into the pleural cavity

##### Keep all tubing straight and free of kinks or dependent loops

##### Keep chest drain system upright at all times during transport

#### Document the following:

##### Obtain vital signs every 15 minutes during transport

##### Monitor continuous pulse oximetry and end tidal CO2 capnography during transport

##### Auscultate breath sounds at beginning of transport and with any changes in patient condition

##### Amount of suction used

##### Level of drainage at start of transport

##### Color and consistency of drainage

##### Cumulative level of drainage at end of transport

##### Chest tube left connected to drainage system and NOT clamped at receiving facility.

#### If water seal system, confirm fill chamber is at manufacturer recommended level prior to transport

#### Attach chest tube drainage system to suction vacuum source (e.g. portable suction, wall suction), if ordered by the sending physician

##### Suction vacuum source is not always required; may transport patient without at the discretion of the sending physician

##### For water suction systems

###### Adjust vacuum source to create gentle bubbling in the suction chamber

##### For dry suction systems

###### Adjust vacuum suction source to manufacturers recommended setting; usually -80 cmH2O or greater

###### Ensure indicator on chest tube system indicates adequate vacuum is being applied.

#### Monitor for air leaks

##### With water seal systems - The water level in the water seal chamber should rise with inhalation and return to normal with exhalation; continuous bubbling means there is an air leak in the system

##### With dry seal systems - Will have an air leak monitor indicator utilizing water; continuous bubbling means there is an air leak in the system

##### If air leak present

###### Confirm all tubing is securely fastened together and intact

###### Confirm chest tube has not been dislodged

###### If unable to correct air leak, contact Medical Control for consult

#### If chest tube becomes dislodged:

##### Partially dislodged

###### Do not attempt to push tube back into chest

###### Secure in position and contact Medical Control

##### Completely dislodged

###### Cover the insertion site with occlusive dressing secured on three sides

###### Watch for signs of potential tension pneumothorax and contact Medical Control

#### Contact Medical Control for consult with any complications during transport and notify the receiving facility about any issues

### Complications

#### If chest tube drainage system tips over return it to the upright position and note any changes to drainage chamber the levels

#### Observe for any signs of hemorrhage, respiratory distress, or subcutaneous emphysema and treat accordingly

#### If patient shows signs of rapid decompensation (i.e. dyspnea, cyanosis, tachypnea, or deviated trachea) listen to breath sounds, evaluate for possible problems with the system, and consider needle thoracostomy

## Mechanical Ventilation – Zoll EMV+ 731

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mechanical Ventilation Utilizing Zoll EVM+ 731 | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Inter-facility transport – Written physician order |  |  |  |  |  | X |
| Second attendant | X | X | X | X | X | X |

### Indications

#### Physician evaluated patients requiring mechanical ventilation during interfacility transport through a secured advanced airway with physician confirmation of correct placement. Advanced airways include:

##### Orotracheal intubation

##### Nasotracheal intubation

##### Supraglottic airway

##### Cricothyrotomy

##### Tracheostomy

### Contraindications

#### Patients ≤ 20 kg

#### Patients requiring >10 cmH20 of PEEP

### Precautions

#### Have a bag-valve with the mask readily available in case the ventilator fails or the tube becomes dislodged

#### If complications arise, remember the mnemonic **DOPES:**

##### Dislodged tube

##### Obstructed tube

##### Pneumothorax

##### Equipment

##### Stacking breaths

#### Watch for signs of under-sedation, such as:

##### Tachycardia

##### Hypertension

##### Lacrimation

##### Diaphoresis

#### A video laryngoscope should be available during transport for confirmation of tube placement, if necessary

#### Ventilator settings and circuit patency should be confirmed with any change in patient status

#### Tidal volume increases when rising in elevation and decreases when going lower in elevation which can cause the delivered tidal volume of the ventilator to be inaccurate. Consider this if the patient’s condition changes during the transport with an elevation change

#### Follow recommended steps for preventing ventilator-associated pneumonia (VAP) as described below

#### If the patient requires extubation:

##### Prepare equipment to ventilate patient

##### Suction secretions from the pharynx and around the cuff

##### Deflate the cuff

##### Hold cricoid pressure while pulling the tube out

##### Maintain ventilation and oxygenation

Initial Ventilator Settings based on etiology

\*May not be changed unless otherwise noted via waiver, medical direction, or scope-specific Underlined parameters may be changed by the APP as needed

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Respiratory-based etiology**(COPD, Asthma, ARDS,Pneumonia) | **Non-Respiratory-based etiology** (Head-injury / Stroke, ROSC, Overdose, Sepsis) |
| **Mode:** AC-volume | **Mode:** AC-volume |
| **FiO2:** 100% (1.0) | **FiO2:** 100% (1.0) |
| **PEEP** 5cmH2O (initial)Adjust FiO2 & PEEP to maintain appropriate SaO2 (see ARDSnet card) | **PEEP** 5cmH2O (initial)Adjust FiO2 & PEEP to maintain appropriate SaO2 (see ARDSnet card) |
| **Tidal Volume:** 4-6 mL/kg in Predicted Body Weight (PBW) – see table below | **Tidal Volume:** 6 mL/kg in Predicted Body Weight (PBW) – see table below |
| **Respiratory Rate:** 10 breaths/minute (initial)Try to maintain a minute ventilation (TV x RR) of at least 3 L/min if possible | **Respiratory Rate:** 16 breaths/minute (initial)Try to maintain a minute ventilation (TV x RR) of at least 5 L/min if possible |
| **I:E ratio\*:** 1:3 (default) | **I:E ratio\*:** 1:3 (default) |
| **Pplat:** Ensure that Pplat does not exceed 30 cmH2O, with a normal range of 25-30 cmH2O**. Change Tidal volume as needed to maintain appropriate Pplat (see ARDSnet card)** | **Pplat:** Ensure that Pplat does not exceed 30 cmH2O, with a normal range of 25-30 cmH2O**. Change Tidal volume as needed to maintain appropriate Pplat (see ARDSnet card)** |
|  |  |





### Predicted Body Weight (PBW) by Gender



From: <http://www.ardsnet.org/files/pbwtables_2005-02-02.pdf>

# Interfacility Medications

## Medication administration – safety

* + 1. Infusion Pump Failure

To be prepared for an infusion pump failure, determine the drip set rate and calculate the gravity drip rate prior to departure from sending facility.

* + 1. Combined Administration/Procedural Sedation

#### Medications are to be administered for their specific indications; such as fentanyl or morphine for pain and diazepam or versed for muscle spasms

#### Do not administer medications at the same time; allow each medication time for it to have taken effect. Document a patient assessment including vitals prior to the next medication administration.

### 6 Rights of Medication Administration

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Right Medication** | * Inspect the medication label 3 times – When removing the drug from the bag, as the medication is drawn into the syringe, and immediately before administration
* Consider showing or verbalizing the medication to your partner for confirmation
 |
| **Right Dose** | * Most medications administered in the ambulance require opening 1-package
* If opening more than 1-package; verify the intended dose, the medication concentration, and all dosing calculations are correct before administration
* Consider reviewing the dosage with your partner for confirmation
 |
| **Right Time** | * If administering medications by written order; review the physician orders for the appropriate administration time
* In order to maintain the medication’s effect, subsequent doses should be administered before the effects of the previous dose wear off
 |
| **Right Route** | * Medications may not be absorbed by the body as effectively when administer by the wrong route
* A concentration of a medication administered by the wrong route can have serious side effects
 |
| **Right Patient** | * If transporting multiple patients; confirm the physician orders before administration
 |
| **Right Documentation** | * Document treatments provided for the receiving facility
* Review transfer orders; ask the sending physician for clarification or additional orders if needed
 |
| Confirm each “Right” 3-times before administration of the medication |

## Medication Adminstration – Patient Care Report Documentation

### Vital signs

#### Document every 10-15 minutes if clinically stable, every 5-10 minutes if unstable

#### In the first and last sets of patient vitals document all of the following:

##### Systolic blood pressure

##### Heart rate

##### Respiratory rate

##### Oxygen saturation

##### Glasgow Coma Scale

##### Capnography for certain patients

##### Blood glucose monitoring for certain patients

##### Temperature for certain patients

### Medication Documentation

Document the following information for each medication:

#### Medication name/blood product infused

#### Route of administration

#### If applicable, bolus dose administered prior to infusion

#### Drug concentration

#### Infusion rate (e.g. mL/hour, etc.)

#### Dose (e.g. mg, mg/hour, units/hour, etc.)

#### Infusion IV/IO location and size

#### Amount of fluid infused:

##### Prior to ambulance arrival

##### During transport

#### Outcome/effects of administration

#### If applicable, time infusion initiated and/or completed and/or titrated

## Activase (alteplase)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Activase (alteplase) | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Infusion maintenance – Written physician order |  |  |  |  | X | X |

### Action

#### Tissue plasminogen activator (tPA)

#### Administration of thrombolytic agents results in the dissolving of blood clots

### Indication

#### Acute myocardial infarction

#### Non-hemorrhagic ischemic stroke patient

#### Frostbite with <24 hours of warm ischemia time

### Contraindications

#### Contraindications for acute myocardial infarction and non-hemorrhagic ischemic stroke

##### Previous CVA or intracranial bleed

##### History of coagulopathy or other bleeding disorders

##### Surgery or trauma in previous 2 months

##### GI or GU bleeding in previous 4 weeks

##### Pregnancy or post-partum

##### Uncontrolled hypertension (>200mmHg systolic or >100mmHg diastolic)

#### Contraindications for hypothermia

##### Absolute

###### Repeated freeze-thaw cycles

###### Greater than 24 hours warm ischemia time

##### Relative contraindications

###### Concurrent or recent (within 1 month) intracranial hemorrhage, subarachnoid hemorrhage, or trauma with active bleeding

###### Recent intracranial or intraspinal surgery, serious head trauma (within 3 months)

###### History of or active gastrointestinal bleeding

###### Traumatic or prolonged CPR (greater than 10 minutes)

###### Dementia or altered mental status

##### Caution

###### Age greater than 75 years old

###### Prior intracranial hemorrhage, known structural intracranial process, intracranial neoplasm

###### Current or recent use of anticoagulants

###### Non-compressible vascular punctures

###### Recent internal bleeding (within 2-4 weeks)

###### Remote history of ischemic stroke (greater than 3 months)

###### Recent major surgery (within 3 weeks

###### Severe uncontrollable hypertension

###### Pregnancy

### Complications

#### A reperfusion arrhythmia per se is not an indication to discontinue the thrombolytic infusion. If the patient becomes symptomatic, treat the reperfusion arrhythmia per protocol and contact Medical Control

#### Thrombolytic infusion should be discontinued and the Medical Control notified for any of the following complications:

##### Bleeding from any site not controlled with direct pressure.

##### Decreased level of consciousness; complaint of headache, seizure or new neurologic complaint, change, or finding the may suggest intracranial hemorrhage.

##### GI or GU bleeding

##### Unexplained hypotension (systolic blood pressure <100mmHg) not readily reversed with a fluid bolus or Trendelenburg position.

##### When prolonged chest compressions are anticipated.

### Procedure

#### Thrombolytic drugs must be infused via a separate IV line. **DO NOT MIX WITH OTHER MEDICATIONS**.

#### Infusion may be from a glass vial, use an infusion set with an air inlet

#### In the ischemic stroke patient, blood pressure should be maintained at:

##### Systolic blood pressure: 165-180mmHg

##### Diastolic blood pressure: 95-105mmHg

#### Concentration

##### 100mg reconstituted in 100mL diluent (Sterile Water for infusion)

##### 50mg reconstituted in 50mL diluent (Sterile Water for infusion)

##### Do not shake or agitate the mixture

#### Dosing:

##### Standard dosing for MI / stroke:

###### 0.9mg/kg; maximum dose 90mg

###### 10% of the total dose is administered as an IV bolus over 1 minute (must be administered by the sending facility)

###### Remaining 90% infused over 60 minutes, may be monitored during interfacility transport

##### Dosing for frostbite:

###### Loading dose = 0.15mg/kg

###### IVPB = 0.15mg/kg/hr x 6 hours (max dose 100mg total)

## Amiodarone

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Amiodarone | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Infusion maintenance – Written physician order |  |  |  |  | X | X |

### Action

#### Slows conduction and prolongs refractoriness of myocardial cells

#### Negative inotropic effect

#### Decreases peripheral vascular resistance

### Indications

#### Treatment and prophylaxis of ventricular tachycardia and ventricular fibrillation

### Contraindications

#### Known hypersensitivity to amiodarone or any of its components

#### Cardiogenic shock

#### Bradycardia

#### Junctional arrythmias

#### Second- or third-degree AV block

#### Pregnancy (Category D)

### Complications

#### Hypotension is the most common side effect; usually occurs within the first several hours of therapy and is rate related

#### Bradycardia

#### Congestive heart failure

#### Continuous ECG monitoring is mandatory to observe for arrhythmias

##### Watch for QTc prolongation which may cause arrhythmias (torsades de pointes)

##### Monitor for bradycardia and AV block

#### Hypokalemia and hypomagnesemia should be corrected before use; may exaggerate a prolonged QTc and cause arrhythmias (torsades de pointes)

### Concentration

#### Maintenance infusion

##### 360mg/200mL D5W premade bag

##### Final concentration 1.8mg/mL

### Procedure

#### Whenever possible, use in-line filter set with administration

#### Concentrations greater than 3 mg/ml are associated with high incidence of peripheral vein phlebitis

#### For infusions longer than one hour, amiodarone concentrations should not exceed 2 mg/ml unless a central venous catheter is used

#### Document amount of bolus dose administered prior to arrival (typical loading dose of 150mg over 10 minutes)

#### Continuous infusion to follow bolus dosing

##### Initial rate: 1 mg/minute for 6 hours (360 mg/6 hours) = 33 mL/hour x 6 hours

##### Maintenance infusion rate to 0.5 mg/minute for 18 hours (540 mg/18 hours) = 17 mL/hour x 18 hours

#### Maximum daily dose: 2.2 g

### Monitoring

#### ECG/12-Lead

#### Blood pressure

#### Heart rate

## Antibiotics and antivirals

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Antibiotics | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Infusion maintenance – Written physician order |  |  |  |  | X | X |

### Indications:

#### Antibiotics and antivirals may be given IV in serious or life threatening infections to rapidly achieve high blood levels of drug for maximum bacterial or virus killing power.

#### For [Remdesivir (VEKLURY)](#_REMDESIVIR_(VEKLURY)) adminstrations, refer to specific medication protocol.

### Contraindications:

#### The treating physician will have considered the contraindications to antibiotic administration

#### Review the patient’s allergies to medications; if there is a history of an allergic reaction to the drug, the infusion should be discontinued and notify Medical Control

### Complications:

#### If signs or symptoms of an allergic reaction develop (i.e. itching, rash, difficulty breathing, wheezing, hypotension, etc.) discontinue the infusion and notify Medical Control

#### Treat allergic reactions per protocol

#### If local irritation at the IV site develops:

##### Decrease the infusion rate by half

##### Contact Medical Control

### Procedures:

#### Infuse as ordered by the treating physician

## Blood/ Blood Products

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Blood/Blood Products | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Infusion maintenance – Written physician order |  |  |  |  | X | X |
| Initiate infusion – Physician evaluated patient with written orders |  |  |  |  |  | X |

### Blood Products

#### Whole Blood

##### Indication - Massive blood loss

##### Infusion rate - As fast as patient can tolerate; must be administered within 4 hours of starting

##### 18 ga or larger IV catheter preferred

#### Packed Red Blood Cells (RBC)

##### Indication - When patient’s red blood cell count must be increased

###### Anemia

1 unit PRBCs raises the HCT by about 3 percent, hemoglobin (Hgb) by 1g/dL

###### Acute hemorrhage after crystalloid resuscitation

Crossmatched blood has been checked by the blood bank for ABO-RH compatibility

Uncrossmatched blood (O-Negative) is ABO-RH antigen free.

##### Raises hematocrit and hemoglobin levels without significantly increasing blood volume

##### Infusion rate - Slow for first 15 minutes then as fast as patient can tolerate; must be administered within 4 hours of starting

##### 18 ga or larger IV catheter preferred

#### Fresh Frozen Plasma (FFP)

##### Indication

###### Treatment of thrombotic thrombocytopenia purpura (TTP)

###### Some bleeding or coagulation disorders when no factor-specific concentrate is available

##### Infusion rate - Usually 30-60 minutes; must be administered within 4 hours of starting

##### 22 ga or larger IV catheter preferred

#### Platelets

##### Indication - Treatment of thrombocytopenia and platelet function abnormalities

##### Infusion rate - 30-60 minutes; must be administered within 4 hours of starting

##### 20 ga or larger IV catheter preferred

### Indications:

#### Blood or blood products may be life saving in hemorrhagic and certain anemic states and for other disorders of the hematologic system

#### The treating physician will have considered the indications prior to the onset of transfusion and order the monitoring and maintenance or set guidelines for initiating an infusion of packed red blood cells, platelets, or fresh frozen plasma

### Contraindications:

#### The treating physician will have considered the contraindications to blood transfusions.

#### Some people may object to transfusion of blood products for religious reasons (i.e. Jehovah’s Witness), notify the receiving facility

### Complications:

#### Transfusion reactions and hypersensitivity reactions can occur after the onset of blood product infusion

#### Transfusion reactions are much more likely with uncrossmatched blood.

#### Rapid rate of infusion can increase the likelihood and severity of reaction.

#### Caution in patients with CHF or renal failure as these transfusions are a significant volume load.

### Procedure:

#### Verify sending physician orders

#### Verify consent has been obtained from patient if required

#### Verify all the following has been confirmed by 2 providers prior to departing facility

##### Patient information – document the following on the Transfusion Record

###### Patient name

###### Hospital number

###### Patient blood type

###### Patient armband with patient hospital #Consent has been signed, if applicable

##### Unit information

###### Unit blood type (O, A, B, AB)

###### Unit number

###### Component (PRBC, platelets, plasma)

###### Expiration date

##### Patient hospital armband, unit label, product tie tag, and transporting agency Transfusion Record must have matching information

#### Verify all the following before administering the unit of blood product

##### Verify identity by visually inspecting

###### Unit tie tag

###### Unit label

##### Confirm

###### Patient name

###### Patient hospital number

###### Patient blood type

###### Unit blood type

###### Unit number

###### Component

###### Expiration date

DO NOT ADMINSTER BLOOD PRODUCT IF ANY DISCREPANCY IS NOTED IN ANY IDENTIFYING INFORMATION DURING VERIFCIATION PROCESS

#### If there are concerns, speak to the blood bank lab tech either in person or by phone.

#### Record the following vital signs prior to start of infusion, every 15 minutes after start of infusion, and within 1 hour after completion of unit infusion

##### Temperature

##### Pulse rate

##### Respiratory rate

##### Blood pressure

#### All blood products listed must be administered with a 170-micron filter blood administration set

#### Observe patient closely for first 15 minutes of infusion; most likely reactions will occur within this time.

#### Maintain or initiate infusion at rate as indicated by the treating physician or within 4 hours of starting

#### Once infusion completed, remove blood product bag and tubing, discard as biohazard waste

### Transfusion Reactions

#### If transfusion reaction occurs:

##### Discontinue the transfusion

##### Disconnect tubing at IV catheter; tie knot in tubing and leave attached to the blood product bag.

##### Replace the drip set and infuse normal saline

##### Obtain vital signs

##### Contact Medical Control for consultation and notify the receiving facility

#### Hemolytic reactions

##### These are the most life-threatening transfusion reactions.

##### Clinical manifestations:

###### Fever

###### Headache

###### Chest or back pain

###### Pain at the infusion site

###### Hypotension

###### Nausea

###### Generalized bleeding

###### Shock

##### Most common cause is ABO incompatibility

##### Chance of survival is dose dependent; stop the transfusion immediately

##### Treatment

###### Give fluid challenge of NS – it is acceptable to use the angiocath already placed if it will flow

#### Febrile non-hemolytic reaction

##### Chills and fever

##### Rise in baseline temperature of 1°C or 1.8°F

##### Treatment

###### Monitor for signs of more severe reaction and treat per protocol

#### Allergic reaction

##### Urticaria – generalized itching rash

##### Treatment

###### Treat per DMEMSMD Allergy/Anaphylaxis protocol

#### Anaphylaxis

##### May occur after a few CCs of blood product

##### Clinical Manifestations:

###### Cough/bronchospasm

###### Respiratory distress

###### Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea

###### Abdominal cramps

###### Vascular instability

###### Shock

###### Loss of consciousness

##### Treatment

###### Treat per DMEMSMD Allergy/Anaphylaxis protocol

#### Volume Overload

##### Clinical manifestations:

###### Dyspnea

###### Headache

###### Peripheral edema

###### Coughing

###### Frothy sputum

##### Treatment

###### Discontinue the infusion of fluids

###### Consider Furosemide IV when clinically indicated

#### Transfusion-related Acute Lung Injury (TRALI)

##### Clinical manifestations:

###### Fever

###### Chills

###### Dyspnea

###### Tachypnea

###### Tachycardia

###### Hypoxemia

###### Non-cardiogenic bilateral pulmonary edema

##### Treatment

###### Provide cardiovascular and airway support

## Calcium

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Calcium | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Magnesium toxicity bolus administration – Written physician order |  |  |  | X | X | X |
| Hyperkalemia and calcium channel blocker overdose in acute setting - Refer to DMEMSMD Protocols |

### Indications:

#### For pregnant patients receiving magnesium that develop magnesium toxicity:

##### Respiratory depression

##### CNS depression

##### Hypotension

##### Arrhythmia

##### Depressed reflexes

### Contraindications:

#### Hypercalcemia

#### Digitalis toxicity

### Complications:

#### Bradycardia

#### Hypotension

#### Metallic taste in the mouth

#### Local necrosis

#### Nausea and vomiting

#### Coronary and cerebral artery spasm

#### Peripheral vasodilation

### Procedure:

#### Follow sending physician orders

#### Calcium Gluconate

##### Preferred medication

##### Give 1.5 g - 3 g (15-30 mL) SLOW IV push over 2-5 minutes

#### Calcium Chloride

##### Use only if calcium gluconate is not available

##### Give 500 mg - 1 g (5-10 mL) SLOW IV push over 2-5 minutes

##### INJECT SLOWLY with a small needle into a large vein; very irritating to tissues

## Cardene (Nicardipine)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Cardene (nicardipine) | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Infusion maintenance and titration – Written physician order |  |  |  |  | X | X |

### Actions

#### Cardene is a dihydropyridine calcium channel blocker that is more selective towards smooth muscle than cardiac muscle causing vasodilation of coronary vasculature and relaxation of myocardium

#### Blood pressure will start to fall within minutes but the effect will slow down over time

#### It reaches about half of its overall blood pressure decrease in 45 minutes

### Indications

#### For short-term control of hypertension during transport

#### Control of blood pressure in acute ischemic stroke and spontaneous intracranial hemorrhage, perioperative hypertension, subarachnoid hemorrhage associated cerebral vasospasm

### Contraindications

#### Aortic stenosis

#### Asphyxia (perinatal)

### Precautions:

#### Congestive heart failure (CHF)

#### Exacerbation of angina

#### Hepatic or renal impairment

#### Pheochromocytoma

#### Portal hypertension

### Complications

#### Headache

#### Hypotension

#### Nausea and vomiting

#### Tachycardia

#### Peripheral edema

#### Less frequent adverse effects include ECG abnormalities, postural hypotension, premature ventricular contractions, injections site reactions, dizziness, sweating, and polyuria

### Over dosage

#### Symptoms include: Marked hypotension, bradycardia, palpitations, flushing, drowsiness, confusion, or slurred speech

#### Contact Medical Control with signs of overdose

#### Calcium gluconate slow IV push may reverse the calcium blocking effects

#### Vasopressors are indicated for patients exhibiting profound hypotension

### Concentration

#### Premixed: 40mg/200mL bag for emergent situations

|  |
| --- |
| Infusion rate for standard IV concentration of 0.2 mg/mL |
| Dose rate | Volume rate |
| 3 mg/hour  | 15 mL/hour |
| 5 mg/hour  | 25 mL/hour |
| 7.5 mg/hour  | 38 mL/hour |
| 10 mg/hour  | 50 mL/hour |
| 12.5 mg/hour  | 63 mL/hour |
| 15 mg/hour  | 75 mL/hour |

#### Mixed:

##### 66mL is removed from a 250mL NS IV bag

##### 40mg (16mL) is added to the NS IV bag

##### Final concentration is 0.2mg/mL

### **Procedure**

#### Starting rate: 5 mg/hour IV infusion

#### Titrate by 2.5 mg/hour every 5 to 15 minutes; maximum rate of 15 mg/hour = 75mL/hour

#### Suggested maintenance rate: 3 mg/hour IV = 15mL/hour (after reaching BP goal)

### Monitoring

#### Blood pressure

#### Heart rate

#### ECG/12-lead

## Cardizem (diltiazem)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Cardizem (diltiazem) | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Infusion maintenance – Written physician order |  |  |  |  | X | X |

### Action:

#### Calcium channel inhibition in cardiac pacemaker cells lowers atrioventricular (AV) node conductivity

#### Decreases peripheral vascular resistance and causes relaxation of the vascular smooth muscle resulting in a decrease of both systolic and diastolic blood pressure

### Indications:

#### Control of ventricular rates in the interfacility transfer setting due to:

##### PSVT

##### Atrial flutter

##### Atrial fibrillation

### Contraindications:

#### Wide complex tachycardia

#### Hypotension

#### Second degree AV block

#### Third degree AV block

### Complications:

#### Bradycardia

#### AV blocks

#### Chest pain

#### Syncope

#### Dizziness

#### Headache

#### Nausea and vomiting

### Concentration

#### Diltiazem 125 mg/25mL vial is attached to AddEase adapter, then attached to 100 mL NS bag to activate and mix

#### Final concentration is 1mg/mL

### Procedure:

#### Follow the sending physician orders

#### Document amount of bolus dose (if administered) prior to arrival

#### Typical dose range is 5-15mg/hr

### Monitoring

#### ECG

## Dopamine

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Dopamine | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Infusion maintenance and titration – Written physician order |  |  |  |  | X | X |

### Description

#### Dopamine is chemically related to epinephrine and norepinephrine. It is an α- and β-adrenoceptor agonist

#### β-agonism produces positive inotropic and chronotropic effects on the myocardium, thus increasing heart rate and cardiac contractility

#### α-agonism produces vasoconstriction and increased blood pressure

#### Dominant effect is dependent on dose:

##### Low dose (2-5 mcg/kg/min): increase renal blood flow and urine output

##### Moderate dose (5–10 mcg/kg/min): increased renal blood flow, heart rate, myocardial contractility, and cardiac output (β effect)

##### High dose (more than 10 mcg/kg/min): potent vasoconstriction and increased blood pressure (α effects)

### Indications

#### Septic shock

#### Cardiogenic shock

#### Congestive heart failure (CHF)

#### Decreased cardiac output

#### Shock due to myocardial infarction, trauma or open heart surgery

#### Renal failure

### Contraindictions

#### Pheochromocytoma

#### Tachyarrhythmias/ventricular fibrillationations

### Precautions

#### Angina pectoris

#### Ventricular arrhythmias

#### Extravasation (may cause tissue necrosis)

#### Hypovolemia

#### Occlusive vascular disease

#### Recent use of monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs)

#### Sensitivity to sulfites

### Adverse Reactions

#### Dose-related tachydysrhythmias

#### Hypertension

#### Increased myocardial oxygen demand

### Concentration

#### Premix: 400mg/250mL D5W

#### Mix: Add 400mg to 250mL D5W

#### Concentration: 1600mcg/mL

### Dosage and Administration

#### Initial IV infusion rate: 2-5 mcg/kg/min by continuous infusion (may start higher depending on the clinical situation)

#### Titrate in 5-10 mcg/kg/min increments to desired effect

#### Maximum infusion rate: 50 mcg/kg/min

### Special Considerations

#### May become ineffective if added to solutions containing alkaloids

#### At low doses, decreased blood pressure may occur due to peripheral vasodilatation. Increasing infusion rate will correct this.

#### Tissue extravasation at the IV site can cause skin sloughing due to vasoconstriction. Be sure to make Emergency Department personnel aware if there has been any extravasation of dopamine-containing solutions, so that proper treatment can be instituted.

#### Can cause hypertensive crisis in susceptible individuals

#### Certain antidepressants potentiate the effects of this drug. Check for medications or other medications that are being used, especially monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs).

### Infusion Rate Table

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **mcg/kg/min** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 15 | 20 | 25 | 30 | 35 | 40 | 50 |
| **Wt (kg) 🡫** | **\*\*\*\*\*Infusion rate below is in mL/hr using 400 mg/250 mL (1600 mcg/ml drip)\*\*\*\*\*** |
| 40 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 8 | 9 | 11 | 12 | 14 | 15 | 23 | 30 | 38 | 45 | 53 | 60 | 75 |
| 45 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 10 | 12 | 14 | 15 | 17 | 25 | 34 | 42 | 51 | 59 | 68 | 84 |
| 50 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 9 | 11 | 13 | 15 | 17 | 19 | 28 | 38 | 47 | 56 | 66 | 75 | 94 |
| 55 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 10 | 12 | 14 | 17 | 19 | 21 | 31 | 41 | 52 | 62 | 72 | 83 | 103 |
| 60 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 11 | 14 | 16 | 18 | 20 | 23 | 34 | 45 | 56 | 68 | 79 | 90 | 113 |
| 65 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 10 | 12 | 15 | 17 | 20 | 22 | 24 | 37 | 49 | 61 | 73 | 85 | 98 | 122 |
| 70 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 11 | 13 | 16 | 18 | 21 | 24 | 26 | 39 | 53 | 66 | 79 | 92 | 105 | 131 |
| 75 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 11 | 14 | 17 | 20 | 23 | 25 | 28 | 42 | 56 | 70 | 84 | 98 | 113 | 141 |
| 80 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 12 | 15 | 18 | 21 | 24 | 27 | 30 | 45 | 60 | 75 | 90 | 105 | 120 | 150 |
| 85 | 3 | 6 | 10 | 13 | 16 | 19 | 22 | 26 | 29 | 32 | 48 | 64 | 80 | 96 | 112 | 128 | 159 |
| 90 | 3 | 7 | 10 | 14 | 17 | 20 | 24 | 27 | 30 | 34 | 51 | 68 | 84 | 101 | 118 | 135 | 169 |
| 95 | 4 | 7 | 11 | 14 | 18 | 21 | 25 | 29 | 32 | 36 | 53 | 71 | 89 | 107 | 125 | 143 | 178 |
| 100 | 4 | 8 | 11 | 15 | 19 | 23 | 26 | 30 | 34 | 38 | 56 | 75 | 94 | 113 | 131 | 150 | 188 |
| 105 | 4 | 8 | 12 | 16 | 20 | 24 | 28 | 32 | 35 | 39 | 59 | 79 | 98 | 118 | 138 | 158 | 197 |
| 110 | 4 | 8 | 12 | 17 | 21 | 25 | 29 | 33 | 37 | 41 | 62 | 83 | 103 | 124 | 144 | 165 | 206 |
| 115 | 4 | 9 | 13 | 17 | 22 | 26 | 30 | 35 | 39 | 43 | 65 | 86 | 108 | 129 | 151 | 173 | 216 |
| 120 | 5 | 9 | 14 | 18 | 23 | 27 | 32 | 36 | 41 | 45 | 68 | 90 | 113 | 135 | 158 | 180 | 225 |
| 125 | 5 | 9 | 14 | 19 | 23 | 28 | 33 | 38 | 42 | 47 | 70 | 94 | 117 | 141 | 164 | 188 | 234 |
| 130 | 5 | 10 | 15 | 20 | 24 | 29 | 34 | 39 | 44 | 49 | 73 | 98 | 122 | 146 | 171 | 195 | 244 |

## Epinephrine infusion

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Epinepherine Infusion for Interfacility Transport | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Infusion maintenance and titration – Written physician order |  |  |  |  | X | X |

### Action

#### α and β-adrenergic agonist

#### Causes vasoconstriction through its effect on α -adrenergic receptors

#### Induces bronchial smooth muscle relaxation through action on β-adrenergic receptors

### Indications

#### For 911 reponse - refer to DMEMSMD protocols

#### Interfacility transport - Circulatory shock

### Contraindications

#### Cardiac dilatation and coronary insufficiency (injection)

#### Shock (non-anaphylactic)

#### Where vasopressor drugs are contraindicated: thyrotoxicosis, diabetes, in obstetrics when maternal blood pressure is in excess of 130/80, hypertension

#### Labor; may delay the second stage (injection)

#### Narrow-angle glaucoma

#### Organic brain damage

### Precautions

#### Asthma (long-standing) and emphysema with degenerative heart disease

#### Cardiac arrhythmias, coronary insufficiency, organic or ischemic heart disease

#### Concurrent use with drugs which may sensitize the heart to arrhythmias (eg, digitalis, mercurial diuretics, quinidine)

#### Concurrent use with MAOI or tricyclic antidepressants, sympathomimetic drugs

#### Chronic conditions: diabetes, elderly, hypertension, peripheral constriction and cardiac stimulation, seizures, thyroid disease, prostatic hypertrophy

#### Hypersensitivity to sulfites

#### Pregnancy

### Side Effects/Adverse Reactions

#### Common

##### Palpitations/ Tachyarrhythmia

##### Dyspnea

##### Tremor

##### Anxiety

##### Dizziness

##### Sweating

##### Asthenia

##### Nausea/vomiting

##### Headache/ Eye pain

#### Serious

##### Cardiac dysrhythmia

##### Hypertensive crisis

##### Pulmonary edema

### Concentration

#### 4 mg/250 mL NS

|  |
| --- |
| Continuous IV infusion (4mg/250 mL)(16 mcg/mL) |
| Dose | Infusion rate |
| 1 mcg/min | 4 mL/hour |
| 2 mcg/min | 8 mL/hour |
| 3 mcg/min | 11 mL/hour |
| 4 mcg/min | 15 mL/hour |
| 5 mcg/min | 19 mL/hour |
| 6 mcg/min | 23 mL/hour |
| 7 mcg/min | 26 mL/hour |
| 8 mcg/min | 30 mL/hour |
| 9 mcg/min | 34 mL/hour |
| 10 mcg/min | 38 mL/hour |

#### Final concentration = 16 mcg/mL

### Dosing and Administration

#### Initial infusion rate: 1 mcg/min, titrated to response/goal mean arterial pressure (MAP)

#### Usual range: 2-10 mcg/min

### Monitoring

#### ECG/continuous cardiac monitoring

#### Blood pressure, heart rate, respiratory rate

## Heparin

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Heparin | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Infusion maintenance – Written physician order |  |  |  |  | X | X |

### Action:

#### Inhibits reactions that lead to the clotting of blood and thrombus formation

#### Inhibits further coagulation once a thrombus has formed by inactivating thrombin, preventing the conversion of fibrinogen to fibrin

### Indications:

#### Heparin is frequently administered as an anticoagulant to prevent blood clotting in the setting of ischemic coronary disease, pulmonary embolism, or peripheral vascular conditions such as deep vein thrombosis.

### Contraindications:

#### Severe thrombocytopenia

#### Active bleeding

### Complications:

#### Hemorrhage from any site may occur

#### Hypersensitivity signs and symptoms

#### If any condition occurs, discontinue the infusion and notify the receiving facility.

### Procedure:

#### Cardiac heparin infusion:

##### Bolus: 60 units/kg IV x1 (rounded to nearest 500 units, maximum dose 4000 units)

##### Continuous infusion: 12 units/kg/hour, round to nearest 50 units

###### Max initial rate: 1000 units/hour

###### Titrate per protocol from facility system; adjusted per anti-Xa levels

###### Do not exceed 1000 units/hour if patient has received thrombolytics

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Weight (kg) | Bolus: 60 units/kg rounded to nearest 500 units (units) | Starting infusion dose: 12 units/kg/hour rounded to nearest 50 units (units/hr) | Starting rate (mL/hour) |
| 40 | 2500 | 500 | 10 |
| 45 | 2500 | 550 | 11 |
| 50 | 3000 | 600 | 12 |
| 55 | 3500 | 650 | 13 |
| 60 | 3500 | 700 | 14 |
| 65 | 4000 | 800 | 16 |
| 70 | 4000 | 850 | 17 |
| 75 | 4000 | 900 | 18 |
| 80 | 4000 | 950 | 19 |
| 85 | 4000 | 1000 | 20 |
| 90 | 4000 | 1000 | 20 |
| 95 | 4000 | 1000 | 20 |
| 100 and over | 4000 | 1000 | 20 |

#### Neurology infusion: No bolus

##### Continuous infusion: 12 units/kg/hour, round to nearest 50 units

###### Max initial rate: 1000 units/hour

###### Titrate per protocol from facility system; adjusted per anti-Xa levels

###### Use premixed drug (0.45% NaCl) for first bag; change to NS as diluent for ongoing bags (made in pharmacy)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Weight (kg) | Starting infusion dose: 12 units/kg/hour rounded to nearest 50 units (units/hr) | Starting rate (mL/hour) |
| 40 | 500 | 10 |
| 45 | 550 | 11 |
| 50 | 600 | 12 |
| 55 | 650 | 13 |
| 60 | 700 | 14 |
| 65 | 800 | 16 |
| 70 | 850 | 17 |
| 75 | 900 | 18 |
| 80 | 950 | 19 |
| 85 | 1000 | 20 |
| 90 | 1000 | 20 |
| 95 | 1000 | 20 |
| 100 and over | 1000 | 20 |

#### DVT/PE heparin infusion:

##### Bolus: 80 units/kg IV x 1, round to nearest 500 units (maximum dose: 10,000 units)

##### Continuous infusion: 18 units/kg/hour, round to nearest 50 units

###### Max initial rate: 2000 units/hour

###### Titrate per protocol from facility system; adjusted per anti-Xa levels

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Weight (kg) | Bolus: 80 units/kg rounded to nearest 500 units (units) | Starting infusion dose: 18 units/kg/hour rounded to nearest 50 units (units/hr) | Starting rate (mL/hour) |
| 40 | 3000 | 700 | 14 |
| 45 | 3500 | 800 | 16 |
| 50 | 4000 | 900 | 18 |
| 55 | 4500 | 1000 | 20 |
| 60 | 5000 | 1100 | 22 |
| 65 | 5000 | 1150 | 23 |
| 70 | 5500 | 1250 | 25 |
| 75 | 6000 | 1350 | 27 |
| 80 | 6500 | 1450 | 29 |
| 85 | 7000 | 1550 | 31 |
| 90 | 7000 | 1600 | 32 |
| 95 | 7500 | 1700 | 34 |
| 100 | 8000 | 1800 | 36 |
| 105 | 8500 | 1900 | 38 |
| 110 | 9000 | 2000 | 40 |
| 115 | 9000 | 2000 | 40 |
| 120 | 9500 | 2000 | 40 |
| 125 | 10000 | 2000 | 40 |
| 130 | 10000 | 2000 | 40 |

#### Low Molecular Weight Heparin

##### Administered subcutaneously; must be administered by sending facility prior to transport

##### Monitor for effects of medication during transport

##### **Contact Medical Control** with any adverse events

### Monitoring

#### ECG

#### 12-lead

## Insulin

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Insulin | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Infusion maintenance – Written physician order |  |  |  | X | X | X |

### Mechanism of Action/Pharmacology:

**Infusion Rate:**

Use standard drip (1 unit/mL)

|  |
| --- |
| Drip rate (100 units/100 mL) |
| Standard drip concentration |
| Units/hour | mL/hour |
| 0.5 | 0.5 |
| 1 | 1 |
| 1.5 | 1.5 |
| 2 | 2 |
| 2.5 | 2.5 |
| 3 | 3 |
| 3.5 | 3.5 |
| 4 | 4 |
| 4.5 | 4.5 |
| 5 | 5 |
| 6 | 6 |
| 7 | 7 |
| 8 | 8 |
| 9 | 9 |
| 10 | 10 |
| 11 | 11 |
| 12 | 12 |
| 13 | 13 |
| 14 | 14 |
| 15 | 15 |
| 16 | 16 |
| 17 | 17 |
| 18 | 18 |
| 19 | 19 |
| 20 | 20 |
| 24 | 24 |
| 28 | 28 |

#### Hormone involved in storage, metabolism, and uptake of carbohydrates, protein and fat

#### Stimulates protein and free fatty acid synthesis and promotes conversion of glucose to glycogen

#### Directly lowers glucose level by increasing uptake into tissues and reducing releasing glucose stores from the liver

### Indications:

#### Diabetic ketoacidosis

#### Hyperglycemia

#### May be used with dextrose solutions to treat patients with hyperkalemia

### Contraindications:

#### Hypoglycemia

#### Hypokalemia

#### The transporting ambulance must have a functioning glucometer for evaluation of blood sugar during the transport.

### Precautions:

#### Alcohol and salicylates may potentiate the effects of insulin.

#### Pregnancy and lactation

#### Patients with decreased insulin requirements:

##### Diarrhea

##### Nausea/vomiting

##### Malabsorption

##### Hypothyroidism

##### Renal impairment

##### Hepatic impairment

#### Patients with increased insulin requirements:

##### Fever

##### Hyperthyroidism

##### Trauma

##### Infection

##### Surgery

### Side Effects/Adverse Reactions

#### Hypoglycemia

#### Injection site reaction

#### Lipodystrophy (long-term use)

### Concentration

#### 100 units/100 mL NS

### Dosing/Administration:

#### Obtain printed copy of dose adjustment order set from sending facility. This must be printed at the sending facility.

#### If the patient received a loading dose of insulin document on the patient care report including how much was administered.

#### Refer to the dose adjustment order sets for how often blood glucose should be checked with resulting indication for insulin adjustment per the order set.

#### Refer to dose adjustment order set for details about when the infusion should be stopped altogether.

##### Starting dose of insulin is the result of a complex equation that considers blood glucose and weight.

##### In the absence of the dose adjustment order set, the usual dose of insulin is:

###### Adult: 0.1units/kg/hour

###### Pediatric: 0.1units/kg/hour

### Monitoring:

#### Symptoms of hyperglycemia, ketosis, and hypoglycemia

#### Blood glucose tests at least every 30 minutes or per the dose adjustment order set

## Ketamine

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Insulin | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Bolus for analgesia/sedation with mechanical ventilation – Written physician order |  |  |  |  |  | X |

### Action

#### Ketamine is a dissociative anesthetic agent, structurally similar to phencyclidine (PCP). It is unique among sedative agents in that it provides analgesia along with amnestic and sedative effects

#### Onset of action

##### Time to effect – 45 to 60 seconds

##### Duration of action – 10 to 20 minutes

### Indications

#### Analgesic and sedation agent for maintenance of intubation with mechanical ventilation

### Contraindications

#### Known hypersensitivity to the drug

#### Penetrating eye trauma is a relative contraindication

### Precautions

#### Caution should be used in the hypertensive patient

#### Caution should be used in the patient with existing tachyarrhythmias

### Complications

#### Laryngospasm: this very rare adverse reaction presents with stridor and respiratory distress

#### Emergence reaction: presents as anxiety, agitation, apparent hallucinations or nightmares as ketamine is wearing off. For severe reactions, consider benzodiazepine

#### Nausea and Vomiting: always have suction available after ketamine administration.

#### Hypersalivation: Suction usually sufficient. If profound hypersalivation causing airway difficulty, administer atropine 0.5 mg IV

### Procedure

#### Dose

##### Maintenance dose: 0.25-0.5 mg/kg IV every 5-10 minutes or with [signs of undersedation](#UNDERSEDATION)

## Lidocaine

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Lidocaine | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Infusion maintenance – Written physician order |  |  |  |  | X | X |

### Action:

#### It is a class 1B antiarrhythmic medication

#### It suppresses the automaticity in the Bundle of HIS-Purkinje system by suppressing spontaneous depolarization of the ventricles during diastole, slowing down the rate of contraction.

### Indications:

#### To treat ventricular arrhythmias

### Contraindications:

#### Sinus bradycardia

#### Heart block

#### Known hypersensitivity to the drug

#### Administer with caution:

##### Congestive heart failure

##### Liver disease

##### Elderly

### Complications:

#### Signs and symptoms of toxicity:

##### Dizziness

##### Tinnitus (ringing in the ears)

##### Tremulousness

##### Agitation

##### Seizures

#### Cardiovascular side effects:

##### Exacerbation of heart block

##### Hypotension

##### Bradycardia

##### May speed the ventricular rate in patients with atrial fibrillation

### Procedures:

#### Infusions of 1-4 mg/min are acceptable, maximum of 300mg total dose per hour

##### The usual initial maintenance dose of lidocaine is 2 mg/min

##### Slower rates should be used in patients with liver disease or congestive heart failure

### Concentration

#### Typically, a maintenance infusion of lidocaine is 2 grams of lidocaine in 250 cc D5W for a concentration of 8 mg/cc; therefore, the drip rates should be:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **mg/min** | **mL/hr** |
| 1 | 7.5 |
| 1.5 | 11.25 |
| 2 | 15 |
| 3 | 22.5 |
| 4 | 30 |

#### In cases of lidocaine toxicity the medication drip should be discontinued immediately and the patient should be treated with supportive measures

##### Administer atropine for heart block and prepare for pacing

##### Administer diazepam for seizures

### Monitoring:

#### Monitor for signs and symptoms of malignant hyperthermia

#### ECG to detect for lidocaine toxicity

#### Watch for CNS depression

## Magnesium Sulfate

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Magnesium sulfate | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Infusion maintenance – Written physician order |  |  |  |  | X | X |

### Action:

#### Decreases the amount of acetylcholine released at the myoneuronal junction, resulting in depression of neuromuscular transmission.

#### Depressant effect on smooth muscle and may cause central nervous system (CNS) depression

#### Causes coronary vasodilation, reduction in peripheral vascular resistance, platelet aggregation inhibition, and an effect on the calcium current

#### Decreases myometrial contractility by altering calcium uptake, binding, and distribution in smooth muscle cells

#### Increases uterine blood flow secondary to vasodilation of uterine vessels

### Indications:

#### To inhibit preterm labor (tocolysis)

#### Pregnancy induced hypertension

#### Other magnesium deficiencies as per written sending order

### Contraindications:

#### Patients with myocardial damage

#### Heart block

#### Administer with caution:

##### Impaired renal function

##### Patients receiving CNS depressants or neuromuscular blocking agents

### Complications:

#### Signs and symptoms of magnesium toxicity include:

##### Flushing

##### Sweating

##### Hypotension

##### Sedation

##### Confusion

##### Decreased or absent reflexes

##### Heart block

##### Respiratory paralysis

### Procedures:

#### Calcium gluconate or calcium chloride must be available when transporting magnesium sulfate drips

#### Infusion rates will be ordered by the treating physician

#### Typical infusion range is 2 g/hour for OB patients, 1g/hour for magnesium deficiencies (range 1-4g/hour)

#### Reflexes and signs of muscle weakness should be assessed during transport every 15 minutes. Notify the receiving facility if reflexes decrease while en-route.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Assessment of Reflexes | Score |
| None | 0 |
| Sluggish | +1 |
| Normal | +2 |
| Brisk | +3 |
| Brisk/Transient clonus (fades away) | +4 |
| Brisk/Sustained clonus (remains with continued pressure on the foot) | +5 |

#### In case of magnesium toxicity, discontinue the infusion, administer [calcium per protocol](#_Calcium) and notify the receiving facility

### Monitoring

#### Urine output

#### Level of consciousness

#### Respiratory rate/breath sounds

#### Pulse oximetry

#### Patellar/deep tendon reflexes

#### Muscle weakness

#### Magnesium deficiency: symptomatic improvement

#### Cardiac monitoring (QT prolongation)

## Multivitamin Infusion

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Multivitamin infusion | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Infusion maintenance – Written physician order |  |  |  | X | X | X |

### Indications:

#### As a daily multivitamin supplement for patients receiving parenteral nutrition

#### Most commonly, multivitamin infusions (MVI) will be given to patients suspected of being malnourished (e.g. chronic alcoholics).

#### For magnesium or potassium, refer to specific protocol.

### Contraindications:

#### Preexisting hypervitaminosis

#### Known hypersensitivity to any vitamins or other ingredients

#### These will have been previously considered by the treating physician

### Precautions:

#### Not physically compatible with alkaline solutions or moderately alkaline drugs; tetracycline; or ampicillin. Avoid y-site administration in these circumstances.

#### Infusion rate should be slowed if any burning or irritation occurs at the infusion site.

### Administration:

#### Multivitamins may be mixed into normal saline, lactated ringer’s, or dextrose solutions.

#### Carefully note the size of the bag and what is in the mix, including amounts of thiamine, folate, potassium, magnesium, and dextrose.

##### In particular, note amount of potassium being infused. Usual amount is 20 mEq of potassium.

##### Refer to [potassium](#_Potassium_Infusion) protocol for ECG monitoring requirements

#### Administration via infusion pump recommended, however, follow [potassium](#_Potassium_Infusion) protocol for infusion pump requirements for solutions containing [potassium](#_Potassium_Infusion).

#### Maintain at ordered rate, generally 100 to 120 mL/hr but no faster than 500 mL/hr.

## Nitroglycerin

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Nitroglycerin | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Infusion maintenance and titration – Written physician order |  |  |  |  | X | X |
| Paste maintenance – Written physician order |  |  |  | X | X | X |

### Action:

#### Smooth muscle relaxation and consequent dilation of peripheral arteries and veins

#### Results in:

##### Pooling of blood

##### Decreased left ventricular end diastolic pressure and wedge pressure (preload)

##### Coronary artery dilation

### Indications:

#### Ischemic coronary states

#### Hypertension

### Contraindications:

#### Hypersensitivity

#### Patients taking erectile dysfunction medications

#### Administer with caution:

##### Evidence of right ventricular infarction

##### Hypotension

#### Rapid withdrawal of nitroglycerin infusion may result in worsening of ischemia

### Procedure:

|  |
| --- |
| **Necessary Flow Rates (mL/hr)** |
| **Desired Dose (mcg/min)** | **Solution Concentration (mcg/mL)** |
| **100** | **200** |
| 5 | 3 | 1.5 |
| 10 | 6 | 3 |
| 15 | 9 | 4.5 |
| 20 | 12 | 6 |
| 30 | 18 | 9 |
| 40 | 24 | 12 |
| 50 | 30 | 15 |
| 60 | 36 | 18 |
| 70 | 42 | 21 |
| 80 | 48 | 24 |
| 90 | 54 | 27 |
| 100 | 60 | 30 |

####  Nitroglycerin is a concentrated drug that should be administered after dilution. Usual mixtures include:

##### 50mg in 500mL of D5W or NS (100mcg/mL concentration)

##### 50mg in 250mL of D5W or NS (200mcg/mL concentration)

#### Maintain infusion rate ordered by sending physician

#### Infusion rates may be increased by physician order. Obtain order for parameters for titration and maximum dosing. Nitroglycerin rate may be increased for:

##### Worsening ischemic chest pain

##### Hypertension

#### Dosing and administration

##### Hypertension

###### Starting IV rate: IV: 5 mcg/min

###### Increase rate by 5 mcg/min every 3-5 minutes as needed up to 20 mcg/min

###### If no response at 20 mcg/min, increase by 10 mcg/min every 3-5 minutes up to maximum of 100 mcg/min

##### Unstable angina and congestive heart failure associated with AMI

###### Starting IV rate: 10-20 mcg/min

###### Increase by 5-10 mcg/min every 5-10 minutes until desired hemodynamic response

###### Maximum dose usually 100 mcg/min

#### Treatment goals of IV nitroglycerin

##### Relief of ischemic chest discomfort

###### Titrate to effect

###### Keep SBP greater than 90 mmHg

###### Limit drop in SBP to 30 mmHg below baseline in hypertensive patient

##### Improvement of pulmonary edema and hypertension

###### Titrate to effect

###### Limit drop in SBP to 10% of baseline in normotensive patients

###### Limit drop in SBP to 30 mmHg below baseline in hypertensive patients

### Notes

#### Nitrates absorb in plastic so the amount of drug exiting the IV tubing may be much less than the amount entering the tubing

#### Decrease the infusion rate by half if a systolic blood pressure <100mmHg or signs of poor perfusion occur which may include:

##### Pallor

##### Sweating

##### Decreased capillary refill

##### Decreased mental alertness

#### Notify the receiving facility in the event of complications.

#### If paste, document dose. Monitor as for drip; remove paste if needed.

### Monitoring

#### The patient should be observed clinically for:

##### Pain relief

##### Blood pressure changes

##### Other signs of poor perfusion

##### Tachycardia, which should be avoided if possible when trying to reduce myocardial demand

#### Blood pressure every 2 minutes during titration, then every 10 minutes

#### ECG

#### 12-lead

### Written Orders

#### Initial rate

#### Target mean arterial pressure (MAP)

#### Indications to adjust rate up or down

#### Maximum dosing

## Norepinephrine (Levophed)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Norepinephrine (Levophed) | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Infusion maintenance and titration – Written physician order |  |  |  |  | X | X |

### Action:

#### Norepinephrine is a catecholamine with potent alpha-adrenergic vasoconstriction and beta-adrenergic action

#### α- and β-adrenergic activity:

##### α – effect: peripheral vasoconstriction,

##### β -effect: inotropic stimulation of the heart and coronary artery vasodilation

#### Vasoconstrictive properties are used to treat hypotension caused by low peripheral vascular resistance such as septic shock

### Indications:

#### This protocol is for maintenance of hospital supplied medication or hospital initiated medication during interfacility transport only.

#### Symptomatic hypotension

### Contraindications:

#### Norepinephrine is contraindicated in hypovolemic/hemorrhagic shock. Any pressor agent worsens tissue hypoxia in hypovolemia (e.g. diuretics and poor intake).

### Precautions

#### Pregnancy class C: Use in pregnancy only if clearly needed.

#### Profound hypoxia or hypercarbia

#### Concurrent MAOI or tricyclic antidepressant therapy

#### Sulfite allergy

#### In case of infusion site extravasation – watch for tissue sloughing

#### Mesenteric or peripheral vascular thrombosis

### Dosing:

#### Concentration:

##### 8 mg/250 mL NS; final concentration 32 mcg/mL

##### Administer into a central vein (preferred) or large vein (e.g., antecubital)

#### Hypotension (standard) dosing:

##### Initial: 8-12 mcg/minute continuous IV drip (maintenance dose usually 2-4 mcg/minute)

##### Titrate up or down one or two dose ranges not faster than every 2 minutes on the chart to maintain a MAP of >65, HR <140bpm – per sending physician orders, maximum 30 mcg/min

##### Refractory shock patients may require 8 to 30 mcg/min

##### Titrate down or off slowly

|  |
| --- |
| **mcg/minute (standard) dosing chart using 8 mg/250 mL (32 mcg/mL) standard IV drip** |
| **mcg/min** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** | **7** | **8** | **9** | **10** | **11** | **12** | **15** | **20** | **25** | **30** |
| **mL/hour** | 1.9 | 3.8 | 5.6 | 7.5 | 9.4 | 11.3 | 13.1 | 15.0 | 16.9 | 18.8 | 20.6 | 22.5 | 28.1 | 37.5 | 46.9 | 56.3 |

#### Sepsis (weight based) dosing – See dosing table on next page:

##### Weight based dosing: 0.1-0.5 mcg/kg/min (concentration 8 mg/250 mL; 32 mcg/mL)

##### Titrate up one or two dose ranges not faster than every 2 minutes on the chart to maintain a MAP of >65, HR <140bpm – per sending physician orders

##### Titrate down or off slowly

|  |
| --- |
| **mcg/kg/minute (alternative weight-based) dosing chart using 8 mg/250 mL (32 mcg/mL) standard IV drip** |
| **mcg/kg/min** | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.5 |
| **Wt (kg) ** | **Infusion rate below is mL/hour using 8mg/250 mL (32 mcg/mL) drip** |
| **40** | 7.5 | 15.0 | 22.5 | 30.0 | 37.5 |
| **45** | 8.4 | 16.9 | 25.3 | 33.8 | 42.2 |
| **50** | 9.4 | 18.8 | 28.1 | 37.5 | 46.9 |
| **55** | 10.3 | 20.6 | 30.9 | 41.3 | 51.6 |
| **60** | 11.3 | 22.5 | 33.8 | 45.0 | 56.3 |
| **65** | 12.2 | 24.4 | 36.6 | 48.8 | 60.9 |
| **70** | 13.1 | 26.3 | 39.4 | 52.5 | 65.6 |
| **75** | 14.1 | 28.1 | 42.2 | 56.3 | 70.3 |
| **80** | 15.0 | 30.0 | 45.0 | 60.0 | 75.0 |
| **85** | 15.9 | 31.9 | 47.8 | 63.8 | 79.7 |
| **90** | 16.9 | 33.8 | 50.6 | 67.5 | 84.4 |
| **95** | 17.8 | 35.6 | 53.4 | 71.3 | 89.1 |
| **100** | 18.8 | 37.5 | 56.3 | 75.0 | 93.8 |
| **105** | 19.7 | 39.4 | 59.1 | 78.8 | 98.4 |
| **110** | 20.6 | 41.3 | 61.9 | 82.5 | 103.1 |
| **115** | 21.6 | 43.1 | 64.7 | 86.3 | 107.8 |
| **120** | 22.5 | 45.0 | 67.5 | 90.0 | 112.5 |
| **125** | 23.4 | 46.9 | 70.3 | 93.8 | 117.2 |
| **130** | 24.4 | 48.8 | 73.1 | 97.5 | 121.9 |
| **Dark shaded areas of chart are rates that exceed usual maximum dose of 30 mcg/min** |

#### Pediatric Dosing:

##### Begin infusion at 0.1 mcg/kg/min, titrate to effect or a max of 2 mcg/kg/min

##### Titrate only per sending physician orders

### Monitoring

#### Blood pressure every 2 minutes until target blood pressure is obtained, then every 5 minutes

#### IV site for signs of extravasation which can cause skin sloughing due to vasoconstriction. Notify receiving facility if there has been any extravasation of a norepinephrine solution so that proper treatment is instituted.

#### Signs of organ perfusion ie: urine flow

#### ECG

#### 12-lead

### Side effects and Special Notes:

#### Common side effects:

##### Bradycardia

##### Hypertension – hypertensive crisis in susceptible individuals

##### Extravasation injury / necrosis

##### Nausea/vomiting

##### Confusion

##### Headache

##### Tremor/anxiety/restlessness.

#### Norepineprhine can induce tachydysrhythmias. If the heart rate exceeds 140, consult base physician.

#### Tissue extravasation at the IV site can cause skin sloughing due to vasoconstriction. Notify receiving facility if there has been any extravasation of a norepinephrine solution so that proper treatment is instituted..

#### Norepinephrine can cause hypertensive crisis in susceptible individuals

#### Certain antidepressants such as a MAOI potentiate the effects of norepinephrine

### Written Orders

#### Initial rate

#### Target to mean arterial pressure (MAP)

#### Indications to adjust rate up or down

## Oxytocin

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Oxytocin | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Infusion Maintenace – Written physician order |  |  |  | X | X | X |

**Action**

 A. Uterine stimulant, uterine vascular constrictor.

 B. Antidiuretic effect.

 C. Shifts calcium into uterine myofibril segments, increasing contraction strength.

 D. Increases uterine prostaglandin release, increasing contraction strength.

**Indications**

 A. Postpartum hemorrhage control

**Contraindications**

 A. Known hypersensitivity to oxytocin or any of its components

 B. Active pregnancy in-utero.

**Complications**

 A. Hypotension is the most common side effect to aggressive administration rapidly, though often hypotension is due to blood loss rather than medication.

 B. Acute hyponatremia from excessive antidiuretic effect if given in large doses or for prolonged periods, especially if given with free water rather than saline or lactated ringers.

**Administration**

 A. Maintenance infusion

1. 30 units in 500mL normal saline is standard.

2. IV Bolus is 10 units, or 167mL, over 30 minutes.

3. Followed by maintenance drip of 5.7 units per hour until final 20 units are given.  Total time is 30 minute bolus + 3.5 hour infusion.

 B. Intramuscular bolus (10 units) can be followed by same maintenance infusion schedule.

**Procedure**

 A. Determine if sending facility gave IV or IM bolus.

 B. Document amount of bolus dose administered prior to arrival.

 C. Continuous infusion to follow bolus dosing. (As detailed in administration)

 D. Maximum daily dose: 40 units

**Monitoring**

 A. Blood Pressure, heart rate.

 B. Amount of vaginal bleeding.

 C. Mental status.

## Parenteral Nutrition

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Parenteral Nutrition | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Infusion maintenance – Written physician order |  |  |  |  | X | X |

### Abbreviations:

#### PN – Parenteral Nutrition

#### TPN – Total Parenteral Nutrition; administered via central line

#### PPN – Peripheral Parenteral Nutrition; administered via peripheral intravenous line

#### CVC/PICC – Central Venous Catheter/Peripheral Intravenous Central Catheter; TPN may be administered through both types of central venous lines

### Description:

#### Parenteral Nutrition (PN) is feeding a patient intravenously

#### PN may contain any combination of salts, glucose, amino acids, lipids, and vitamins; it is mixed based on the patient’s nutritional needs

#### Total Parenteral Nutrition (TPN) means the patient is receiving nutrition intravenously only; no food/nutrition is given by other routes

### Indications:

#### To prevent the adverse effects of malnutrition in patients who are unable to obtain adequate nutrients by oral or enteral routes

### Contraindications:

#### The treating physician will have considered the contraindications to TPN administration

### Procedure:

#### Review the following before transporting:

##### Verify there is a sending physician order for TPN infusion; the physician may order as per orders on the parenteral nutrition formulations physician order form

##### Determine if blood glucose should be monitored and how frequently

##### Obtain a copy of the parenteral nutrition formulations physician order form for your documentation and a second copy for the receiving facility

##### Ask for D10W from the sending facility to transport with the patient

##### Document the patient’s weight

#### Inspect the PN container/formulation

##### Look for leaks, color changes, emulsion cracking, or precipitates

##### If any present, discontinue the infusion

#### Review the PN label

##### Verify the patient’s name

##### Expiration date

##### The formulation matches the parenteral nutrition formulations physician order form

NOTE IF THERE IS INSULIN IN THE FORMULATION

#### PN can only be administered by infusion pump with an in-line filter

##### 1.2 micron filter below lipid emulsion insertion at the Y-site

##### 0.22 micron filter if no lipid emulsion

#### Maintain infusion rate ordered by sending physician

#### Document input/output amounts prior to and during transport

#### If the PN infusion is discontinued, follow these steps:

##### Flush CVC lines with 10 mL of fluid and PICC lines with 30 mL of fluid

##### Insulin lasts longer than glucose, so immediately start an infusion of D10W at the TPN ordered rate. It does not need to run in the same line as the TPN.

##### Contact the sending physician for additional orders

#### If any complications contact the sending physician and notify the receiving facility

### Notes

#### Treat hypoglycemia per protocol

#### Watch for signs of infiltration and/or phlebitis if PN is administered through a peripheral line

#### No medications are to be infused via the PN catheter unless otherwise ordered

#### Aseptic technique is critical

##### Patients receiving PN have an increased risk of infection, usually due to having an indwelling central venous catheter

##### Using a separate catheter or lumen to administer PN and minimizing manipulation of the catheter reduces the risk of infection

#### Patients receiving PN for the first time may become hyperglycemic

#### If an infusion of TPN has to be discontinued, D10W and D5W are administered since insulin is usually a component of TPN that even after being discontinued can cause hypoglycemia

#### Insulin may be a component of the PN formulation

#### Use of an in-line filter is required during the administration of PN formulations

##### Due to the multiple additives used in PN, a large number of particulates may contaminate the fluid

##### A clogged filter and associated pump alarm is a sign of precipitate in the fluid

##### NEVER REMOVE A CLOGGED FILTER AND ALLOW THE PN TO INFUSE WITHOUT A FILTER

##### If the filter clogs, replace the drip set with an appropriate for PN filter set or hang D10W at the same rate.

##### Lipid emulsion may not be administered thru PVC containers or administration set.

## Potassium Infusion

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Potassium Infusion | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Infusion maintenance – Written physician order |  |  |  |  | X | X |

### Indications

#### Electrolytes may be infused when there is confirmed or suspected deficiencies

#### In conjunction with an insulin infusion

### Precautions

#### Direct injection of any concentrated solution of potassium can be instantly fatal

#### Exceeding the prescribed rates of potassium solutions may result in cardiac conduction abnormalities

### Dose and Administration

#### Use of an infusion pump is recommended in all situations and required with any dose exceeding 2.5mEq/hr

#### Maximum infusion rate of potassium is 10 mEq/hr

#### ECG monitor should be utilized for all potassium replacement therapy and is required when administered at 10 mEq/hr

## Protonix (Pantoprazole sodium)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Protonix (pantoprazole sodium) | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Infusion maintenance – Written physician order |  |  |  |  | X | X |

### Action:

#### Blocks the hydrogen/potassium adenosine triphosphatase enzyme system; acts specifically to block hydrogen production in the gastric lumen reducing acid production

### Indications:

#### Upper gastrointestinal bleeding

### Contraindications:

#### Sensitivity to pantoprazole or any of its components

### Complications:

#### Abdominal discomfort/pain

#### Diarrhea

#### Headache

### Precautions

#### Incompatible with midazolam – use separate line or flush before and after

### Dosage and Administration:

#### Concentration

##### 0.8 mg/mL (80 mg/100 mL usually D5W)

#### Administration

##### Follow sending physician orders

##### Typical dosing

###### Bolus: **SENDING FACILITY ONLY** (typically 80 mg IV)

###### Infusion rate: 8 mg/hour (10 mL/hour with a 0.8 mg/mL concentration)

##### Titration of medication is not required

## REMDESIVIR (VEKLURY)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Remdesivir (VEKLURY) | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Infusion maintenance – Written physician order |  |  |  |  | X | X |

### Mechanism of Action

#### Remdesivir binds to viral RNA, inhibiting viral replication through premature termination of RNA transcription. In studies, remdesivir-treated subjects had lower virus levels in the lungs and less lung damage than in the control group.

### Indications

#### For the treatment of hospitalized COVID-19 patients

### Contraindications

#### Known clinically significant hypersensitivity reactions to the medication

### Complications

#### Hypersensitivity reactions, including infusion-related and anaphylactic reactions, have been reported during and following remdesivir administration. Signs/symptoms may include angioedema, bradycardia, diaphoresis, dyspnea, hypotension, hypertension, hypoxia, fever, nausea, rash, shivering, tachycardia, and wheezing; slowing infusion rate (maximum infusion time: 120 minutes) may be considered to potentially prevent these reactions.

#### If the patient experiences pain during the infusion stop the infusion, elevate extremity, and apply warm compress.

### Precautions

#### May not be indicated for patients with decreased renal function

#### Do not administer simultaneously with any other medication or IV solutions other than NS

### Side Effects

#### Nausea

#### Increased AST and ALT

### Procedure / Dosage and Administration

#### Supply – supplied as a powder that is reconstituted in 20mL sterile water, then diluted to the following concentrations:

##### 2mg/mL = 200mg mixed in 100mL NS OR

##### 1mg/mL = 100mg mixed in 100mL NS

##### Either dose could be diluted in 250mL NS instead

#### Adult, weighing at least 40kg:

##### Loading dose of 200mg on day 1

##### 100mg on day 2-5 (not on mechanical ventilation)

##### 100mg on day 2-10 (on mechanical ventilation)

#### Pediatric (<12 years):

##### Loading dose = 5mg/kg (max 200mg) on day 1

##### 2.5mg/kg on day 2-5 (not on mechanical ventilation)

##### 2.5mg/kg on day 2-10 (on mechanical ventilation)

#### Infusion rate

##### Infuse over 2 hours

###### 200mg / 100mL / 2 hours = 50 mL/hour

###### 100mg / 100mL / 2 hours = 50 ML/hour

#### With clear written transport orders, may be infused over 30 minutes or 1 hour instead

###### If patient experiences hypersensitivity reaction, slow the rate of the infusion to over 2 hours

#### After infusion complete, flush with 30mL NS at same infusion rate

### Special Considerations

#### Will be reconstituted and diluted by the sending facility pharmacy. Infusion MUST be completed within 24 hours of dilution.

#### Infusion must be completed within 2 hours of initiation

## Sandostatin (Octreotide acetate)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sandostatin (octreotide acetate) | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Infusion maintenance – Written physician order |  |  |  |  | X | X |

### Action:

#### Effective in reducing hepatic blood flow, wedged hepatic venous pressure, and azygous blood flow by inhibiting the release of vasodilatory hormones, like glucagon, and promotes splanchnic vasoconstriction and decreased portal flow

### Indications:

#### Esophageal varices

### Contraindications:

#### Sensitivity to octreotide or any of its components

### Complications:

#### Abdominal discomfort/pain

#### Diarrhea

#### Nausea

#### Backache

#### Dizziness/headache

### Precautions

#### May affect blood glucose level in patients who have pre-existing diabetes or who may be at risk for developing Type I diabetes mellitus; consider baseline blood glucose level and be aware of the potential for changes in blood sugar

### Dosage and Administration:

#### Concentration

##### 5 mcg/mL (500 mcg/100 mL usually D5W)

#### Administration

##### Follow sending physician orders

##### Typical dosing

###### Bolus: **SENDING FACILITY ONLY** (typically 50 mcg IV)

###### Infusion rate: 50 mcg/hour (10 mL/hour with a 5 mcg/mL concentration)

##### Titration of medication is not required

## TNKase (Tenecteplase)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Tenecteplase (TNKase) | B | IV/A | I | P | P+ | Adv |
| Monitor for effects post-administration |  |  |  | X | X | X |

TNKase (Tenecteplase) is a thrombolytic administered for acute myocardial infarction as a single bolus over 5 seconds. The following protocol is to monitor for the effects of the administered medication. The administered TNKase (Tenecteplase) will still be active during the interfacility transport.

### Action

#### Tissue plasminogen activator (tPA)

#### Administration of thrombolytic agents results in the dissolving of blood clots

### Half-life

#### Initial half-life – 20 to 24 minutes

#### Terminal phase half-life – 90 to 130 minutes

### Indication

#### Acute myocardial infarction

#### Acute Ischemic Stroke

### Contraindications

#### Active internal bleeding

#### History of CVA

#### Intracranial or intraspinal surgery or trauma within 2 months

#### Intracranial neoplasm, AV malformation, or aneurysm

#### Known bleeding diathesis

#### Severe uncontrolled hypertension

### Complications

#### Bleeding, the most common

##### Should serious bleeding (not controlled by local pressure) occur, any concomitant heparin or antiplatelet agents should be discontinued immediately

#### Reperfusion arrhythmias – Treat according to protocol

#### Administering anticoagulants and drugs that alter platelet function with TNKase may increase the risk of bleeding

#### Notify the receiving facility with any of the following complications:

##### Bleeding from any site not controlled with direct pressure

##### Decreased level of consciousness; complaint of headache, seizure or new neurologic complaint, change, or finding the may suggest intracranial hemorrhage

##### GI or GU bleeding

##### Unexplained hypotension (systolic blood pressure <100mmHg) not readily reversed with a fluid bolus or Trendelenburg position

##### When prolonged chest compressions are anticipated

### Monitoring

#### Blood pressure every 5 minutes

#### ECG

#### 12-lead

# Interfacility OBSTETRIC Transports

## General Guidelines for Assessment and Treatment of the obstetric patient

Assess mother’s vital signs every 15 minutes

Place patient in left or right lateral recumbent

Note and quantify any vaginal bleeding or leaking of fluids

Provide oxygen based on the FHR and maternal condition; maintain pulse ox ≥90%

Attempt to obtain fetal heart rate (FHR) every 15 minutes

Maintain/establish IV line at ordered rate; if rate not ordered maintain at 125 mL/hr

Assess uterine contractions

## Contraindications to Maternal Transport

**Presence of adverse weather conditions, road closures, construction or traffic delays, time of day, condition of transport crew, or potential for patient condition to deteriorate and ability to provide foreseeable treatment during transport. Refer to Grond Risk Assessment Tool.**

**Safe to Transport?**

**Decline Transport**

Imminent delivery?

Signs of fetal distress?

(see Fetal Distress)

Mother unstable?

* Vaginal bleeding
* Uncontrolled hypertension

Retatined placenta?

Procedure, patient monitoring, fetal monitoring, or medication outside protocol?

**Transport Appropriate**

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

No

No

No

No

No

## Specific Information Needed

This section lists information to obtain from the sending nurse and/or physician. Determine what information is important to provide to the receiving nurse and/or physician.

#### Patient’s age - Teenagers and women over 35-years-old are predisposed to many obstetric complications

#### Gravida (G) / Parity (P) / Abortions (Ab)

##### Gravida - How many times has the patient been pregnant?

##### Parity (Para) - How many deliveries has the patient had at or beyond 20 weeks?

###### Delivery of multiples (e.g. twins, triplets, etc.) is counted as 1

###### Stillborn deliveries are counted

##### Abortions - Documented as spontaneous or elective

#### Weeks Gestation

##### Full-term is considered anywhere from 36-40 weeks gestation

#### Estimated Date of Confinement (EDC) - Approximately when the patient is expected to deliver

#### Obstetric History - Consider and document, if appropriate, for the pregnant and post-partum patient

##### Were the deliveries vaginal or cesarean? Has the patient had a vaginal delivery after a previous cesarean section?

##### Did the mother or previous babies have any complications with previous pregnancies or deliveries?

##### Has the mother had any pre-term deliveries? If so, at what gestation did she deliver and what was the outcome?

##### What was the length of the last labor?

##### How many living children does she have? What was the birth weight of each child?

##### Has there been less than 1 year between the last delivery and beginning of this pregnancy?

#### Current pregnancy

##### Is the patient having contractions?

###### When did they start?

###### Any change in intensity and frequency?

###### Is there any accompanying backache and pelvic or rectal pressure?

##### Is there any vaginal bleeding or spotting present? Is there currently active bleeding?

###### When did the bleeding begin and was there anything associated with it that may have precipitated it? Was the blood bright red or dark? Any bloody show (mucus combined with blood)?

###### Is the bleeding painless or with combined with abdominal pain or contractions?

###### Attempt to quantify the amount of bleeding (number of pads changed)

##### Is the bag of waters (BOW) intact or ruptured?

###### If ruptured, was there a gush or intermittent trickle of fluids? - Leakage of amniotic fluid is uncontrollable and a small amount of clear fluid may be confused with incontinence.

###### What time did it happen?

###### What color is the fluid and is there an odor? - Meconium stained, dark indicating the presence of blood, clear

###### Is the Chux pad under the patient wet or is fluid pooling?

##### Does the patient have any current medical problems or complications with the pregnancy? Is the patient taking any medications and for what?

##### Prenatal care

###### Document as consistent, limited (3 or fewer), or none

###### Has the patient had an ultrasound?

##### Multiple gestation - pregnancy with more than 1 fetus

##### Amount of weight gain during pregnancy

##### Patient blood type

##### Rubella immunization status

##### Group Beta Streptococcus (GBS) status if ≥ 36 weeks gestation

##### History of smoking, alcohol consumption, or substance abuse - Frequency, last use

## Specific Objective Findings

Consider assessing and documenting these specific items. A vaginal examination can only be performed by the sending physician or nurse. Document the findings for the most recent vaginal examination prior to departure.

#### Assessments performed by physicians or nurses only - Document prior to transport

##### Dilation - Widening of the cervix opening for delivery of the baby

###### Measured in centimeters

###### 0 cm - 10 cm

##### Effacement - As labor nears the cervix will thin and shorten eventually becoming a part of the uterine wall,

###### Measured as a percentage (0% - 100%)

##### Station - How far down the baby’s head has come into the pelvis, measured in centimeters as follows:

###### -3 cm to -1 cm: The baby has dropped but not settled into the pelvis, referred to as a negative station

###### 0 cm: The baby has settled into the pelvis but not started descent to the birth canal, referred to as a zero station

###### 1 cm to 3 cm: The baby descent to the cervix from the pelvis, referred to as a positive station

##### Other objective findings to consider obtaining from sending physician or nurse

###### Fundal height - Documented in centimeters, it is the measurement from the pubis symphysis to the fundus; only document if provided by the sending facility, do not measure

###### Fetal position - How the fetus is presenting for delivery; for example, head-down, breech, transverse

If the fetus position is known, fetal heart tones can be heard clearest over the fetal spine

###### Location of placenta implantation - Note if there is any concern about placenta previa or placenta abruption

###### Fetal heart tones - Information from fetal heart monitoring at the sending facility

Rate obtained by the sending facility

Document any rate variability, acceleration, or deceleration which may be a sign of fetal distress observed by the sending facility

#### Objective findings that can be assessed by the ambulance crew - Document findings prior to transport from the sending facility in order to establish a baseline for comparison

##### Fetal activity

###### Document if the activity of the fetus has changed

###### Reassess during transport and ask the mother to notify you of any changes

##### Fetal heart rate

###### Attempt to obtain the fetal heart rate every 15 minutes with the Doppler stethoscope

###### Normal rate is between 110-160 beats per minute; if not within this range contact the sending facility

##### Contractions - Can be assessed by palpating the fundus and noting:

###### Strength

Mild contractions - Can freely indent the fundus

Moderate contractions - Can indent the fundus slightly

Strong contractions - Firm tension of the fundus

###### Frequency

###### Duration

###### Document the patient’s responses to the contractions

Observed by you - Gestures, posture, facial expressions

Verbal description provided by patient

###### Palpate the abdomen between contractions for localized or general tenderness

##### Observe for indications of advancing labor - Apprehension, restlessness, increasing difficulty coping with contractions, screaming, nausea and vomiting, bearing-down effort, bulging perineum

## Fetal distress

### Definition

#### Fetal heart rate <60 or >160 beats per minute

### Signs of Fetal Distress

#### Decreased fetal movement

#### Changes in fetal heart rate

##### Variable decelerations – Variable slowing of the heart rate, possibly due to cord compression

##### Late decelerations – Slowing of the fetal heart rate at the apex of a contraction, indicative of uteroplacental insufficiency

##### Early decelerations – Slowing of the heart rate at the beginning of a contraction, indicative of active labor

##### Bradycardia – Fetal heart rate less than 110 beats per minute

##### Tachycardia – Fetal heart rate greater than 160 beats per minute

##### Prolonged deceleration

### Treatment

#### Check for imminent delivery

#### Use “key” formula on the LOCK

##### L - Left-lateral recumbent position, place the mother in this position

##### O - Oxygen, 100% by non-rebreather

##### C - Correct contributing factors

##### K - Keep reassessing the fetal heart rate (FHR) and treat when indicated

#### Hypotension – Administer a 500 mL fluid bolus

#### Contact the sending facility; consider rendezvousing with a specialty care program or diverting to the closest hospital

#### Variable decelerations in fetal heart rate – If not relieved with the mother in the left-lateral recumbent position, reposition in the following order:

##### Right side

##### The hands and knees

##### The knee-chest position

## Postpartum Hemorrhage

### Definition

#### Blood loss of 1000 mL or greater after delivery

#### Can occur up to 48 hours after delivery

### Assessment

#### Abdominal palpation may reveal a boggy, enlarged, soft uterus

#### Note the discharge of large clots with hemorrhage

### Treatment

#### Perform fundal massage every 5-15 minutes, note the fundus location relative to umbilicus, firmness, and blood flow/discharge of clots

#### Do not attempt to stop bleeding by packing or applying pressure with bandages over the vaginal opening

#### Contact the sending facility; consider rendezvousing with a specialty care program or diverting to the closest hospital

#### Reference TXA protocol for postpartum heorrhage

## Pregnancy Induced Hypertension (PIH)

Pregnancy induced hypertension (PHI) occurs due to a chain reaction of events that leads to vasoconstriction and increased peripheral vascular resistance. Perfusion of body organs is decreased; the function of the kidneys, liver, brain, and placenta are impaired.

#### Preeclampsia

##### Characterized by hypertension, proteinuria, and edema

#### Eclampsia

##### Development of clonic-tonic seizures in a preeclamptic patient

##### Can occur before or during labor or early postpartum

##### Signs of impending seizure

###### Headache

###### Vision changes

###### Anxiety

###### Epigastric pain

###### Hyperreflexia/clonus – clonus is the rapid contraction and relaxation of a muscle after forceful extension or flexion; can be assessed in the calf muscle by forcibly pushing the foot up

##### Seizures usually begin as a facial twitch around the mouth

#### HELLP syndrome

##### Serious complication of preeclampsia

##### Stands for:

###### Hemolysis

###### Elevated Liver enzymes

###### Low Platelets

#### Assessment

##### Hypertension

###### Check blood pressure in left-lateral recumbent position

###### Hypertension associated with PIH may be unstable, changing between blood pressure taken consecutively

###### Rise in systolic pressure of 30 mmHg or diastolic pressure of 15 mmHg based on previously known pressures; or

###### Blood pressure of 140/90 or greater; if systolic >170 mmHg or diastolic >110 mmHg treat per Seizures with Pregnancy (Eclampsia/Pre-eclampsia) in the Obstetric/Gynecological Emergencies protocol

##### Edema

###### Edema of the eyelids, face, and hands is typical of PIH

###### May have pitting edema of the lower extremities

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Assessment of Edema | Score |
| Minimal edema of lower extremities | +1 |
| Marked edema of extremities | +2 |
| Edema of lower extremities, face, and hands | +3 |
| Generalized edema including abdomen and sacrum | +4 |

##### Central nervous system irritability

###### Headache

###### Nausea and vomiting

###### Anxiety and apprehension

###### Hyperreflexia and ankle clonus

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Assessment of Reflexes | Score |
| None | 0 |
| Sluggish | +1 |
| Normal | +2 |
| Brisk | +3 |
| Brisk/Transient clonus (fades away) | +4 |
| Brisk/Sustained clonus (remains with continued pressure on the foot) | +5 |

##### Impaired renal function

###### Oliguria – Urine output < 30mL/hour

##### Hepatic involvement

###### Epigastric pain

###### Nausea and vomiting

###### Malaise

###### Jaundice

#### Treatment and Transport

##### Perform obstetric assessment and obtain history of any symptoms prior to transport

##### Follow sending physician orders

##### Consider oxygen administration, watch for pulmonary edema

##### Verify patency and maintain IV

##### Evaluate blood pressure every 10-15 minutes or more frequently with signs and symptoms of eclampsia

##### Assess fetal heart tones every 15 minutes

##### Decrease sensory stimulation during transport, including lowering lights, keeping sirens off, minimizing noise including equipment sounds

##### Prepare to treat shock per protocol with signs of coagulopathy, which may include:

###### Petechia

###### Bruising

###### Bleeding IV sites

##### Treat eclamptic seizures per protocol

##### Contact the sending facility; consider rendezvousing with a specialty care program or diverting to the closest hospital

1. Common Lab Values

|  |
| --- |
| HEMATOLOGY Red Blood Cells |
| RBC (Male) | 4.2 - 5.6 M/µL |
| RBC (Female) | 3.8 - 5.1 M/µL |
| RBC (Child) | 3.5 - 5.0 M/µL |
| HEMATOLOGY White Blood Cells |
| WBC (Male) | 3.8 - 11.0 K / mm3 |
| WBC (Female) | 3.8 - 11.0 K / mm3 |
| WBC (Child) | 5.0 - 10.0 K / mm3 |
| HEMOGLOBIN |  |
| Hgb (Male) | 14 - 18 g/dL |
| Hgb (Female) | 11 - 16 g/dL |
| Hgb (Child) | 10 - 14 g/dL |
| Hgb (Newborn) | 15 - 25 g/dL |
| HEMATOCRIT |
| Hct (Male) | 39 - 54% |
| Hct (Female) | 34 - 47% |
| Hct (Child) | 30 - 42% |
| MCV | 78 - 98 fL |
| MCH | 27 - 35 pg |
| MCHC | 31 - 37% |
| neutrophils | 50 - 81% |
| bands | 1 - 5% |
| lymphocytes | 14 - 44% |
| monocytes | 2 - 6% |
| eosinophils | 1 - 5% |
| basophils | 0 - 1% |
| CARDIAC MARKERS |
| troponin I | 0 - 0.1 ng/mL (onset: 4-6 hrs, peak:12-24 hrs, return to normal: 4-7 days) |
| troponin T | 0 - 0.2 ng/mL (onset: 3-4 hrs, peak:10-24 hrs, return to normal: 10-14 days) |
| myoglobin (Male) | 10 - 95 ng/mL (onset: 1-3 hrs, peak:6-10 hrs, return to normal: 12-24 hrs) |
| myoglobin (Female) | 10 - 65 ng/mL (onset: 1-3 hrs, peak:6-10 hrs, return to normal: 12-24 hrs)  |
| GENERAL CHEMISTRY |
| acetone | 0.3 - 2.0 mg% |
| albumin | 3.5 - 5.0 gm/dL |
| alkaline phosphatase | 32 - 110 U/L |
| anion gap | 5 - 16 mEq/L |
| ammonia | 11 - 35 µmol/L |
| amylase | 50 - 150 U/dL |
| AST,SGOT (Male) | 7 - 21 U/L |
| AST,SGOT (Female) | 6 - 18 U/L |
| bilirubin, direct | 0.0 - 0.4 mg/dL |
| bilirubin, indirect | total minus direct |
| bilirubin, total | 0.2 - 1.4 mg/dL |
| BUN | 6 - 23 mg/dL |
| calcium (total) | 8 - 11 mg/dL |
| carbon dioxide | 21 - 34 mEq/L |
| carbon monoxide | symptoms at greater than or equal to 10% saturation |
| chloride | 96 - 112 mEq/L |
| creatine (Male) | 0.2 - 0.6 mg/dL |
| creatine (Female) | 0.6 - 1.0 mg/dL |
| creatinine | 0.6 - 1.5 mg/dL |
| ethanol | 0 mg%; Coma:greater than or equal to 400 - 500 mg% |
| folic acid | 2.0 - 21 ng/mL |
| glucose | 65 - 99 mg/dL(diuresis greater than or equal to 180 mg/dL) |
| HDL (Male) | 25 - 65 mg/dL |
| HDL (Female) | 38 - 94 mg/dL |
| iron | 52 - 169 µg/dL |
| iron binding capacity | 246 - 455 µg/dL |
| lactic acid | 0.4 - 2.3 mEq/L |
| lactate | 0.3 - 2.3 mEq/L |
| lipase | 10 - 140 U/L |
| magnesium | 1.5 - 2.5 mg/dL |
| osmolarity | 276 - 295 mOsm/kg |
| parathyroid hormone | 12 - 68 pg/mL |
| phosphorus | 2.2 - 4.8 mg/dL |
| potassium | 3.5 - 5.5 mEq/L |
| SGPT | 8 - 32 U/L |
| sodium | 135 - 148 mEq/L |
| T3 | 0.8 - 1.1 µg/dL |
| thyroglobulin | less than 55 ng/mL |
| thyroxine (T4) (total) | 5 - 13 µg/dL |
| total protein | 5 - 9 gm/dL |
| TSH | Less than 9 µU/mL |
| urea nitrogen | 8 - 25 mg/dL |
| uric acid (Male) | 3.5 - 7.7 mg/dL |
| uric acid (Female) | 2.5 - 6.6 mg/dL |
| ARTERIAL VALUES |
| pH | 7.35 - 7.45 |
| PaCO2 | 35 - 45 mm Hg |
| HCO3 | 22 - 26 mEq/L |
| O2 saturation | 96 - 100% |
| PaO2 | 85 - 100 mm Hg |
| BE | -2 to +2 mmol/L |
| VENOUS VALUES |
| pH | 7.31 - 7.41 |
| PaCO2 | 41 - 51 mm Hg |
| HCO3 | 22 - 29 mEq/L |
| O2 saturation | 60 - 85% |
| PaO2 | 30 - 40 mm Hg |
| BE | 0 to +4 mmol/L |
| URINE |
| color | Straw |
| specific gravity | 1.003 - 1.040 |
| pH | 4.6 - 8.0 |
| Na | 10 - 40 mEq/L |
| K | Less than 8 mEq/L |
| C1 | Less than 8 mEq/L |
| protein | 1 - 15 mg/dL |
| osmolality | 80 - 1300 mOsm/L |
| 24 HOUR URINE |
| amylase | 250 - 1100 IU / 24 hr |
| calcium | 100 - 250 mg / 24 hr |
| chloride | 110 - 250 mEq / 24 hr |
| creatinine | 1 - 2 g / 24 hr |
| creatine clearance (Male) | 100 - 140 mL / min |
| creatine clearance (Male) | 16 - 26 mg / kg / 24 hr |
| creatine clearance (Female) | 80 - 130 mL / min |
| creatine clearance (Female) | 10 - 20 mg / kg / 24 hr |
| magnesium | 6 - 9 mEq / 24 hr |
| osmolality | 450 - 900 mOsm / kg |
| phosphorus | 0.9 - 1.3 g / 24 hr |
| potassium | 35 - 85 mEq / 24 hr |
| protein | 0 - 150 mg / 24 hr |
| sodium | 30 - 280 mEq / 24 hr |
| urea nitrogen | 10 - 22 gm / 24 hr |
| uric acid | 240 - 755 mg / 24 hr |
| COAGULATION |
| ACT | 90 - 130 seconds |
| APTT | 21 - 35 seconds |
| platelets | 140,000 - 450,000 /mL |
| plasminogen | 62 - 130% |
| PT | 10 - 14 seconds |
| PTT | 32 - 45 seconds |
| FSP | Less than 10 µg/dL |
| fibrinogen | 160 - 450 mg/dL |
| bleeding time | 3 - 7 minutes |
| thrombin time | 11 - 15 seconds |
| LIPID PANEL (Adult) |
| cholesterol (total) | Less than 200 mg/dL desirable |
| cholesterol (HDL) | 30 - 75 mg/dL |
| cholesterol (LDL) | Less than 130 mg/dL desirable |
| triglycerides (Male) | Greater than 40 - 170 mg/dL |
| triglycerides (Female) | Greater than 35 - 135 mg/dL |
| CEREBRAL SPINAL FLUID |
| appearance | clear |
| glucose | 40 - 85 mg/dL |
| osmolality | 290 - 298 mOsm/L |
| pressure | 70 - 180 mm/H2O |
| protein | 15 - 45 mg/dL |
| total cell count | 0 - 5 cells |
| WBCs | 0 - 6 / µL |
| HEMODYNAMIC PARAMETERS |
| cardiac index | 2.5 - 4.2 L / min / m2 |
| cardiac output | 4 - 8 LPM |
| left ventricular stroke work index | 40 - 70 g / m2 / beat |
| right ventricular stroke work index | 7 - 12 g / m2 / beat |
| mean arterial pressure | 70 - 105 mm Hg |
| pulmonary vascular resistance | 155 - 255 dynes / sec / cm to the negative 5 |
| pulmonary vascular resistance index | 255 - 285 dynes / sec / cm to the negative 5 |
| stroke volume | 60 - 100 mL / beat |
| stroke volume index | 40 - 85 mL / m2 / beat |
| systemic vascular resistance | 900 - 1600 dynes / sec / cm to the negative 5 |
| systemic vascular resistance index | 1970 - 2390 dynes / sec / cm to the negative 5 |
| systolic arterial pressure | 90 - 140 mm Hg |
| diastolic arterial pressure | 60 - 90 mm Hg |
| central venous pressure | 2 - 6 mm Hg; 2.5 - 12 cm H2O |
| ejection fraction | 60 - 75% |
| left arterial pressure | 4 - 12 mm Hg |
| right atrial pressure | 4 - 6 mm Hg |
| pulmonary artery systolic | 15 - 30 mm Hg |
| pulmonary artery diastolic | 5 - 15 mm Hg |
| pulmonary artery pressure | 10 - 20 mm Hg |
| pulmonary artery wedge pressure | 4 - 12 mm Hg |
| pulmonary artery end diastolic pressure | 8 - 10 mm Hg |
| right ventricular end diastolic pressure | 0 - 8 mm Hg |
| NEUROLOGICAL VALUES |
| cerebral perfusion pressure | 70 - 90 mm Hg |
| intracranial pressure | 5 - 15 mm Hg or 5 - 10 cm H2O |