



Sedation in ICU & Sedation Vacation

May 1, 2018

Set Goals

- Pain Free
- RASS every 1 hours till controlled then every 4 hours
- Bispectral Index (BIS) 40-60
- Notify MD when at maximum dose and target RASS / BIS score not achieved or dys-synchrony with the ventilator
- Daily sedation vacation

Rule out and correct Reversible causes

- Medication, drug/ETOH withdrawal
- Medical emergencies (such as pneumothorax)
- Malpositioning ET tube
- Ischemia/Hypoxia/Hypercarbia
- Urinary retention
- Hypoglycemia
- Sleep deprivation

Non Pharmacological Treatments

- Adjust positioning
- Eliminate irritating physical stimuli (i.e. movement of the ET tube)
- Adjust lighting
- Adjust volume levels
- Family support
- Sleep promotion
- Calm environment (Cold/Hot packs)
- Quran Therapy
- Music therapy

Oral Regimen

Acetaminophen 325-650 mg every 4-6 hours PRN (reduce dose in mild Cirrhosis only (max 40 mg/kg/day) avoid in moderate to severe cirrhosis)

Acetaminophen Codeine 300-30 mg 1-2 tabs every 4 hours PRN (use acetaminophen alone in patients with renal dysfunction)

Morphine Sulfate (MS Contin) 15 g every 12 hours PRN

Hydromorphone 1-2 mg every 4-6 hours PRN

Lorazepam 1-2 mg Po/NG q 4 to 8 hourly PRN

Intermittent IV Regimen

Fentanyl: 25 - 50 mcg every 0.5 - 1 hour PRN until pain goal is achieved (preferred in renal failure patients)

Midazolam: 1 - 2 mg IV every 0.5 – 1 hour PRN until RASS goal is achieved

Lorazepam: 1 - 2 mg IV every 4-6 hours PRN until RASS goal is achieved

Propofol: 10 - 50 mg IV every 0.5 hr PRN x2 doses until RASS goal is achieved

Continuous IV Regimen (if goals not achieved with intermittent regimen)

Fentanyl 2500 mcg in 50 ml; infusion range 0 - 100 mcg per hr

Dexmedetomidine: 0.2 - 0.15 mcg per kg per hr IV infusion.

Propofol infusion 0 – 200 mg per hr (Obtain triglyceride level on day 4 while on infusion)

Midazolam infusion range 0 -10 mg per hr (not preferred in general and especially in renal failure patients)

Sedation vacation

Do not do sedation/analgesia vacation in the following conditions:

1. Paralyzed
 2. Haemodynamically unstable
 3. FiO₂ > 0.6
 4. Minute ventilation > 15L/min
 5. Non-conventional vent. mode
 6. Head injury
 7. Difficult airway intubation
 8. Recent (≤ 3 weeks) Myocardial infarction
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Use restraints to avoid self extubation

Stop infusion at 9:00 AM

Decrease sedation to stop gradually over 1hr starting at 8 AM

If RASS=3-4, restart ½ dose. Be prepared to bolus dose with same sedating agent and increase if necessary

If RASS 1-2 , add Haloperidol 2.5-5 mg iv PRN q 2-4 hourly, inform physician to assess

If RASS 0, alert MD to assess for weaning patient off the ventilator or applying extubation pathway

If RASS remains < 0 after 1 hour of complete stop, call physician to assess

