

Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children

Weaning Care Plan & Guidelines

Name _____ DOB _____

Hospital No. _____ Wt (kg) _____ date _____

Aim ☐ **To wean as rapidly as clinically indicated**

Monitoring ☐ **4 hourly** weaning and withdrawal scores *(download from Pain Service website)*

Review daily ☐ By ward medical team
☐ Convert to oral when appropriate

As a guide Reduce by 5%, 10% or 20% of the **BASELINE DOSE** - every 24hrs
(see 'baseline dose' below)

BASELINE DOSE = highest continuous prescribed dose prior to wean

DOSE REDUCTION = 5%, 10% or 20% of "BASELINE DOSE"

DRUG NAME _____

BASELINE DOSE _____ **mg** **mcg**
Circle measurement used

INTENDED DOSE REDUCTION

5% 10% or 20% (please circle)

∴ DOSE
REDUCTION =

date	route	dose	time	initials

DRUG NAME _____

BASELINE DOSE _____ **mg** **mcg**
Circle measurement used

INTENDED DOSE REDUCTION

5% 10% or 20% (please circle)

∴ DOSE
REDUCTION =

date	route	dose	time	initials

WEAN RESPONSIBILITY -please circle PAIN TEAM / MEDICAL TEAM

less than 5 DAYS

1. Wean intravenous sedation and analgesia as clinically indicated ie. prior to extubation
2. Use ***Withdrawal Observation Chart*** if withdrawal symptoms are observed
Score every 4 hours and initiate treatment if indicated by scores

> 5 – 14 DAYS

1. Reduce opioid and/or benzodiazepine infusion rate
eg. **by 20% of the BASELINE DOSE before weaning, every 24 hours**
2. Use ***Withdrawal Observation Chart*** for all children in this category
Score every 4 hours and initiate treatment if indicated by scores
Monitor for signs of withdrawal for at least 48 hours post cessation of weaning
3. **If withdrawal symptoms develop** (ie. score > 10 for 2 scores): reduce weaning rate to 10% per day, or consider not weaning for a 24 hour period, then reassess and resume weaning if indicated.
4. **If scores do not decrease to < 10**, consider the following options:
 - reinitiate or add benzodiazepine therapy
 - increase opioid to previous dose (especially if GI symptoms noted)
 - if symptoms do resolve, consider weaning more slowly to prevent symptom recurrence
 - if symptoms do not resolve, consider initiating clonidine
 - consider consultation from Pain Control Team at any point

> 14 DAYS

1. Reduce opioid and benzodiazepine infusions more slowly than for > 5 - 14 day patients above
eg. **by 5 - 10% of the BASELINE DOSE before weaning, every 24 hours**
 2. Use ***Withdrawal Observation Chart*** for all children in this category
Score every 4 hours and initiate treatment if indicated by scores
Monitor for signs of withdrawal for at least 48 hours post cessation of weaning
 3. **If withdrawal symptoms develop** (ie. score > 10 for 2 scores) consider not weaning for a 24 hour period, then reassess and resume weaning if indicated.
 4. **If scores do not decrease to < 10** consider the following options:
 - reinitiate or add benzodiazepine therapy
 - increase opioid to previous dose (especially if GI symptoms noted)
 - if symptoms do resolve, consider weaning more slowly to prevent symptom recurrence
 - if symptoms do not resolve, consider initiating clonidine
 - consider consultation from Pain Control Team at any point
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