



Treatment of Anaphylaxis within the Regional Nephrology Program – Medical Directive

Medical Advisory Committee Approved: 27JUN2017

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Authorizing Prescriber(s)

Nephrologists of the Regional Nephrology Program

Authorized to Whom

Authorized to registered nurses working in the Regional Nephrology Program

Patient Description / Population

Patients 18 years of age or older in the Regional Nephrology Program who are under the care of a Nephrologist.

Order and/or Procedure

For mild anaphylaxis (rash, myalgia, pruritus)

- 1) Stop current treatment.
- 2) Call Nephrologist for further instructions.
- 3) Monitor HR, BP, SpO₂, RR every 5 minutes until patient stabilized.

For severe anaphylaxis (change in blood pressure, heart rate, respiratory rate, bronchospasm and facial swelling)

- 1) Stop current treatment. Do not retransfuse patient if they are receiving hemodialysis.
- 2) Activate emergency response as per Adult Code Blue Policy and Procedure.
- 3) Call Nephrologist immediately.
When Nephrologist, paramedics or code blue team arrive, inform them of the doses of medications administered to the patient.
- 4) Monitor blood pressure continuously during the first 5 minutes then every 3-5 minutes until patient is stabilized.
- 5) Maintain a patent airway.

Document Sponsor/Owner Group: (Regional Nephrology Program, Date Approved: 02FEB2017)

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- 6) Administer Oxygen at 100% by OxyMask.
- 7) Initiate an IV of 0.9% Sodium Chloride at 50 mL per hour. If peripheral IV access unobtainable, may use hemodialysis access if available.
- 8) If systolic BP is less than 100 mmHg, give 0.9% Sodium Chloride 500 mL bolus. May be repeated once if patient remains symptomatically hypotensive.
- 9) Administer 0.3 mg EPINEPHrine (e.g. 0.3 mL of 1 mg/1 mL) IM. This may be repeated every 10 - 15 minutes as needed up to a total of 3 doses.
- 10) For patients on Beta-Blockers (e.g. atenolol, metoprolol) with symptomatic hypotension whom are unresponsive to EPINEPHrine, administer glucagon 1 mg IV push.
- 11) For patient weighing **less than 50 kg** administer diphenhydrAMINE 25 mg IV over at least one minute.
For patient weighing **50 kg or more** administer diphenhydrAMINE 50 mg IV over at least one minute.
- 12) Administer famotidine 20 mg diluted to 10 mL with 0.9% Sodium Chloride IV over two minutes.
- 13) Administer hydrocortisone 100 mg IV slow push over 1 minute.

Indications to the Implementation of the Directive

Patients who have symptoms of anaphylaxis while under the care of the Regional Nephrology Program (i.e. urticaria, pruritus, cutaneous erythema, shortness of breath, crampy abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, light-headedness, and/or tightening sensation in the throat).

Contraindications to the Implementation of the Directive

Allergy to diphenhydrAMINE, famotidine, glucagon, hydrocortisone, or EPINEPHrine.

If allergic to any one of these medications, do not give that specific medication and proceed to the next step as outlined in the order and/or procedure.

Consent

Treatment would only be administered during an emergency clinical situation. If the patient or substitute decision maker is unable to consent and there is an imminent threat to the life or health of the patient, the treatment would be carried out as necessary in order to prevent imminent harm.



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Documentation requirements

On a physician's order sheet in the patient's health record, as well as in the health professional's documentation section of the patient chart. Date, time, name of the medical directive and the signature of the nurse implementing the medical directive must be recorded. Any medications that were administered will need to be documented on the patient's eMAR.

Event will be documented in the patient chart and Nephrologist will be informed immediately.

Review/Evaluation Process

Medical directive to be reviewed every 2 years.

Medical directive to be reviewed by registered nursing staff in the Regional Nephrology Program on a yearly basis.

References

1. Anaphylaxis, UpToDate, Topic 392 Version 40.0, Ronna L Campbell, MD, PhD and John M Kelso, MD Apr 3/17
2. Epinephrine, Lexi-Comp, 2016