

ED Division Meeting Notes August 2020

Koh Teaching--Phenobarbital in acute alcohol withdrawal:

- Consider: IV phenobarb (130-260mg) in severe alcohol withdrawal not responding to IV benzos (decreases ICU admission)
- Also consider:
 - IM phenobarb prior to discharge rather than prescription for PO benzos
 - IV as initial agent (or monotherapy) in severe alcohol withdrawal with history of high benzo requirements
 - PO: at your discretion, though experience is less ED based.
- Benefits: Less heterogeneity in response, less phenobarb tolerance, long half life

iPad program:

- Consider giving iPad to covid19+/PUI or other patients who want/need visitor
- Currently if you use them you are responsible for retrieving/cleaning with saniwipe.

Geriatric ED update:

- ISARs performed on >70 yo (previously 75). Please encourage nursing/ICT
- Geriatric fellow available on call for emergency goals of care discussion in >75yo covid+ pt

Covid19 airway coverage overnight

- 11p-7a shift means responding to airways until 7a. If fee-basis faculty has to stay late to intubate they are eligible for overtime pay.

Review covid19 triage screen. If they screen positive address it in your note +/- with consultants

Workflow for patients conditionally suicidal due to pain:

- Consult Psych and SW as indicated
- Consider consulting Pain Fellow for emergency consult VA p55390. Available 24/7.
- Rapid referral to SUD clinic to r/o addiction (consider Naloxone at discharge)
 - All consulting services aware and on-board with this workflow

You are ultimately responsible for follow up on studies you/your resident order

Core faculty will soon be eligible approve ETOH detox consults after hours (i.e. Tarzana, Encinas)

- Workflow is for ED SW to ask MH provider first, but if not available they may ask ED core faculty to approve

Accepting transfers:

- **ED-to-ED** (including LBVA for NSG) – don't accept calls unless they are coming from our transfer center (x31448) or Off Tour Supervisor (OTS) Va pager 99510; x53568
 - Confirm who you are talking to prior to taking the call
 - Confirm bed availability
 - If patient requires specialist, OTS can consult that service prior to accepting the transfer
 - we may have to contact that specialty service if xfer center/OTS declines
- **SNF or clinics** – maintain open-door policy for any patient transfers

- Feel free to share your thoughts on their clinical judgment or assist them in their decision making, if warranted, but please keep it professional
- Email (encrypted email pls) vhaglaemchiefs@va.gov with any issues

Encounter Reminders – please be diligent when filling out encounters

- National is capturing our RVUs
 - Important that we fill out CPT codes for all the procedures performed by the ED provider

ED pharmacist update

- 24hr coverage on the way. Additional pharmacist roles also upcoming:
- PCN allergy exploration, med refills order entry, med reconciliation, vanc loading, etc.