



Hot Topics



The Genesee County Medical Control Authority's

Newsletter for EMS Providers - Also now available on line at GCMCA.org

One Hurley Plaza, Flint 48503

Office Phone 810-262-2555

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Seizure Study – Titrate Medication to Effect

The GCMCA PSRO recently completed a review of a seizure study and wanted to share some findings of that study with you. First, the protocol requires that a blood glucose check is done on all cases. Compliance with this section of the protocol was at 81%. While this is good, we still have room to improve.



Second, the route of Midazolam administration was found to be IV in 56% of the cases and in most of those cases the total dose amount given was 5mg, which is the appropriate dose per protocol. However, in none

of those cases did the medic administer the medication as a slow IV push, which the protocol requires.

To avoid overmedicating the patient, and thus potentially causing a lengthier emergency department stay, make sure that you titrate the medication to effect. The goal is to halt the seizure while limiting the consequences of the drug. The study also showed that in 25% of the cases the patient needed additional medication beyond the initial 5mg dose, so this is definitely a balance in getting the right amount of the drug to the patient.

Avoid Pediatric Intubation

The GCMCA medical director reviews all pediatric cardiac arrests and this year he has found a couple of cases of pediatric intubations that were not appropriate according to protocol. This is a reminder that the current protocol states that children under the age of eight are not to be intubated unless they are unable to protect their own airway or when basic airway management is ineffective. Under eight years of age is the cut off now, but be prepared for a change to under fourteen years with the new state protocols coming out next year.

YOU HAVE QUESTIONS? – WE HAVE ANSWERS!

Have you ever been in a situation on a call that really stumped you, or had a challenging patient that was putting you in a seemingly unresolvable position? I think everyone has had that experience. Well you do not have to feel like you are out there all alone.

Online medical control is not just there for you to submit a radio report. You can also call if you are in a difficult, confusing, or challenging situation and you advice or medical direction from the hospital or physician. Don't hesitate to call if need assistance, they are there to help!



Tis' the Season!

We are wishing you all a Merry Christmas (or whatever holiday you celebrate this time of year), and a safe and happy New Year! (and make sure that you wear your seatbelt)

