

	<b>POLICY#: 2.9</b>
<b>SUBJECT: High Risk – Morphine</b>	<b>Effective: 10/01/13</b>
<b>APPROVED BY: Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee</b>	Page 1 of 1

Purpose: To identify Morphine as a high alert medication and provide guidelines for the safe intravenous administration of this medication to patients.

Prescribing:

1. A physician's order is required every 72 hours.
2. A physician order for IV Morphine shall contain:
  - a. Dose in mg
  - b. Route
  - c. Frequency
  - d. Reason
3. A physician order for Morphine Patient Controlled Analgesia (PCA) shall contain:
  - a. Loading/bolus dose
  - b. Basal rate
  - c. PCA dosage with mg/minutes lock out interval
  - d. Medication concentration (concentration 1 mg/mL for pediatric patients and 5 mg/mL for all other patients)

Appropriate indications for use include:

1. Used to relieve moderate to severe pain.

Administration:

1. IV push
2. Intermittent IV doses – see unit specific and ER policies (usually a minimum of 30 minutes)
3. PCA pumps– Refer to Nursing policy P-15. The solution should be administered via an infusion device.

Specific Monitoring Parameters for PCA:

The patient should be monitored as listed in the package insert.

1. Every 2 hours: Record respiratory rate, cumulative total, LOC (level of consciousness)
2. Every 4 hours: Record blood pressure, pulse, and pain assessment (score, quality, site, and duration)
3. IV site should be assessed every eight hours with appropriate documentation recorded on the chart regarding site condition, patency, and IV administration

Adverse Effects (Serious):

The patient should be monitored for the following adverse effects:

1. Cardiovascular: Cardiac arrest, Orthostatic hypotension (< 5% ), Other specified circulatory disorder, circulatory depression, Shock, Syncope (< 5% )
2. Immunologic: Anaphylaxis (rare )
3. Musculoskeletal: Myoclonus
4. Neurologic: Finding of intracranial pressure
5. Respiratory: Dyspnea (5% to 10% ), Respiratory depression

References:

1. Thompson Micromedex.  
[http://www.thomsonhc.com/hcs/librarian/ND\\_T/HCS/ND\\_PR/Main/CS/0EC1A6/DUPLICATIONSHIELDSYNC/E21866/ND\\_PG/PRIH/ND\\_B/HCS/SBK/2/ND\\_P/Main/PFActionId/hcs.common.RetrieveDocumentCommon/DocId/382310/ContentSetId/100/SearchTerm/morphine%20/SearchOption/BeginWith](http://www.thomsonhc.com/hcs/librarian/ND_T/HCS/ND_PR/Main/CS/0EC1A6/DUPLICATIONSHIELDSYNC/E21866/ND_PG/PRIH/ND_B/HCS/SBK/2/ND_P/Main/PFActionId/hcs.common.RetrieveDocumentCommon/DocId/382310/ContentSetId/100/SearchTerm/morphine%20/SearchOption/BeginWith) Accessed 10/28/10.
2. Lexi-Comp Pediatric Handbook 17<sup>th</sup> edition.
3. Nursing Policy: p-15, Patient Controlled Analgesia (PCA) Pumps.