

Pharmacy Practice Manual **Titrating Order Policy for Adult Patients**
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Policy:

Based on the recommendations from the CT. DPH the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee has determined that orders for Titrating Medications require complete orders for patient safety.

Purpose:

Titrated Medications have a narrow therapeutic range for efficacy and toxicities and require specific orders from the prescriber that contain the following elements: Initial Rate, Specific Dosage of Incremental Titration, maximum rate, reason for use, and titration parameter with endpoint/goal.

Procedure:

The administration of intravenous continuous infusion (CI) medications is divided into four groups:

1. Continuous Infusion meds with titration parameters
2. Do Not Titrate Infusion Meds
3. Administer per Protocol and Do Not Titrate.

Orders for titrating IV Medications must include the name of the medication, the volume and type of solution, specific dosage increments (unless “ Do Not Titrate”), frequency, route, reason for use and titration goal.

4. Meds that can be ordered as Titratable or Not to Titrate.

1. CI Medications with Titration Parameters:

The prescriber must include the following parameters in the order:

Initial Rate, Specific Dosage of Incremental Titration, maximum rate, reason for use, and titration parameter with endpoint/goal. If rates outside of these ordered amounts are clinically required the prescriber must amend the existing order with the new rate(s) or goals.

Continuous Infusion Medication with Titration Parameters

Cisatracurium	Midazolam
DOBUTamine	Nitroglycerin
DOPAmine	Nitroprusside
EPINEPHrine	Norepinephrine
Esmolol	Phenylephrine
FENTANyl	Propofol
Labetolol	Vecuronium
Lorazepam	

2. Do Not Titrate Infusions:

When these medications are ordered there is an initial rate ordered but titration is not allowed and the dose is only changed when a new order is written. Required elements of the order also include the initial rate, maximum rate, reason for use, and endpoint/goal.

Do Not Titrate Infusion Medications

Diltiazem	Naloxone
Flumazenil	Nicardipine
Methadone	Vasopressin
Milrinone	

3. CI medications administered by Protocol:

These medications have a specific protocol approved by the Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee which guides therapy. An initial dose is selected and the nurse may adjust the dose based on the protocol.

Administer Per Protocol and Do Not Titrate Infusion Medications

Alprostadil	Insulin
Amiodarone	Lepirudin
Argatroban	Magnesium
Epoprostenol	Oxytocin
HEParin	

4. CI's that can be either Titrated or Do Not Titrate:

MORPHine
HYDROMORphone (Dilaudid)

APPROVAL: Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee 2/09

Nursing Standards Committee 2/09

EFFECTIVE DATE: 2/09

REVISION DATES: