PHD Division of Nursing Generic Procedure

Patient Controlled Analgesia

Date Implemented: 4/5/00
Review Date: 6/25/00
Revision Date:

PURPOSE: To outline the nursing responsibilities for managing patient controlled analgesia.

EQUIPMENT:

1. PCA Infusion Device
2. Tubing for PCA Infusion Device
3. Extension Set

CONTENT:

	STEPS	KEY POINTS
1	. Obtain physician order for PCA	The order should include: 1. Medication 2. Loading dose 3. Individual dose volume 4. Patient lockout interval 5. Four hour limit setting
2	Explain the procedure to the patient.	Carefully explain procedure and assess understanding . Use written patient education material if available. Stress that only the patient, nurse or doctor should administer extra doses.
3	Establish continuous IV if not present	
4.	Place sticker on pump if Fentynl is being used.	Pumps are preset to read out Demerol or Morphine only
5.	Verify loading dose/drug, drug concentration, and PCA settings with a second RN and administer.	Use PCA flowsheet to document deliver/mode information and assessment data. Verify that medication label can be visualized when placed in cassette.
6	Check cassette and pump displays at the beginning of each shift to determine correct dosage settings and pain relief obtained.	Document settings and pain score on the PCA Flowsheet
7	Verify settings each time the cassette is changed.	
8	Zero the volume delivered when computing I&O at the end of the	
9	Document patient use on the PCA Flowsheet every shift. Document patient response in the nurses notes at least every 8 hours.	
10	Document any narcotic wasted or discarded on the PCA Flowsheet and obtain countersignature of a second RN.	

Source: Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas.