***IV OPIOID CONSERVATION STRATEGIES:***

Due to the extremely limited supply of IV opioids, our Medical Executive Committee, Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee, and Clinical Practice Committee have agreed to the following changes starting April 2, 2018.

* **All IV opioids (e.g. fentanyl, hydromorphone, morphine) ordered for inpatients as an IV push will have a limit of 24 hours for orders placed through admission and post-operative order sets as well as any individual orders placed through the EMR system.** An oral opioid equivalent will continue to be added by pharmacy per protocol to the patient’s profile if no oral pain medication is ordered on admit.
* Nurses will help encourage the oral route by preferentially offering oral pain medications instead of IV if patients are able to take medications orally and if they need it for pain. After 24 hours, if the patient is still in pain after the oral pain medication is given, the nurse will contact the physician to either increase the oral dose or obtain a new IV order. The physician or nurse placing the order will specify in the administration instructions, **“Keep IV per MD.”** Pharmacy will keep these IV pain medication orders on the profile until discontinued by the provider.

Other strategies we are taking include:

* Using more Propofol and dexmedetomidine instead of fentanyl the ICU.
* Saving Fentanyl for Epidurals, the Operating Room (OR) and Procedural areas (e.g. angio, endo, radiology) to allow surgeries and procedures to occur.
* In OR : Use of Alfentanil to preserve fentanyl supply
* Epidurals: Consider “Bupivacaine-only” PCAs (e.g. in L&D)
* Multi-Modal Analgesia Orders for Post op patients: (e.g. post op orthopedic Surgeries): Please consider using this order set and scheduling Acetaminophen and NSAIDs Post-Op for a period of time (e.g. 24-48 hours). Oral and IV opiates can be ordered from this order set as well for more severe pain (Not shown for space reasons)



May I help you?



**DRUG SHORTAGES**

**IV Diltiazem**

**IV HYDROMORPHONE**

**IV MORPHINE**

**IV FENTANYL**

**IV Potassium Chloride**

**KETAMINE**

**TPN**

**DOPAMINE**

**DOBUTAMINE**

**LIDOCAINE 1g/250ml**

**FLUORESCEIN strips**

**NaCl 23.4% & 14.6% VL**

**IV METOCLOPRAMIDE**

**For more information**

**contact:**

www.ashp.org/DrugShortages