



Narcotics (IV Bolus) Prescribing Procedure

Procedure Number
WCDHB-PG-0032

Version Nos:
5

1. Purpose

This Procedure outlines the requirements of the prescribing of IV Narcotics within West Coast District Health Board (WCDHB) Facilities.

2. Application

This Procedure is to be followed by all authorised Medical Practitioners and acted on by MIV-competent Registered Nurses throughout the WCDHB.

3. Definitions

For the purposes of this Procedure.

MIV is taken to mean the WCDHB Medication Intravenous Certificate

4. Staff Authorised To Perform Procedure

This Procedure shall be performed by a:

- i) Authorised Medical Practitioner; and
- ii) MIV-competent Registered Nurse.

5. Resources Required

This Procedure requires:

- i) Patient's Clinical Record
- ii) WCDHB IV Narcotic Bolus Prescription (*printed on pink paper*)

6. Process

- 1.00 The WCDHB IV Narcotic Bolus Prescription sheet is to be completed by an authorised medical practitioner when prescribing IV Narcotics and that it is written clearly and legibly and that each prescription complies with requirements and the WCDHB Clinical Documentation Procedure and the WCDHB Prescribing Procedure.
- 1.01 The WCDHB IV Narcotic Bolus Prescription sheet does not need to be completed by authorised Medical Practitioners when they are prescribing for patients in the following areas of Grey Hospital:
 - i) CCU; and
 - ii) Theatre; and
 - iii) A&E/Outpatients.
- 1.03 The following safety issues are to be considered when IV Narcotics are prescribed:
 - i) that the Patient has no known allergies; and
 - ii) access to oxygen therapy and suction equipment at bedside is available; and
 - iii) Naloxone is immediately available; and
 - iv) Antiemetic is to be given with the initial dose of IV Narcotic, if it has not already been given.



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7. Precautions And Considerations

- The WCDHB IV Narcotic Bolus Prescription sheet is to be completed by an authorised medical practitioner when prescribing IV Narcotics, except in
- i) CCU; and
 - ii) Theatre; and
 - iii) A&E/Outpatients.

8. References

WCDHB IV Resource Manual (September 2007)

9. Related Documents

WCDHB Clinical Documentation Procedure
WCDHB Intravenous Therapy Policy
WCDHB Management Of IV Complications Procedure.
WCDHB Peripheral Intravenous Procedure
WCDHB Prescribing Procedure

Revision History	Version:	5
	Developed By:	Chris Black – Associate Clinical Nurse Leader
	Authorised By:	GM- Operations/Chief Medical Advisor
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