

MORNING CMO REPORT

09.06.2017

FROM THE DESK OF:
Anthony P. Weiss, MD, Chief Medical Officer,
Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs,
Upstate University Hospital

UPSTATE
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

Infection Control Principles

[Applies to All Physicians](#)

In response to a recent citation for the Department of Health, we have been more vigorously auditing compliance with infection control policies within our "OR's." While the vast majority of surgeons, anesthesiologists, OR staff are demonstrating compliance with these rules, every week I receive a list of two and three doctors who have not.

We are pursuing appropriate disciplinary action with these members of the medical staff found out of compliance with these policies. I'd prefer to not have to discipline anyone. Your attention to this matter would allow that to happen.

Cardiac Medications and Flecainide

[Applies to All Physicians](#)

There have been changes to Cardiac Medication ordering in EPIC. Vital sign parameters must be ordered with each cardiac Medication. In addition, there are new guidelines for ordering of Flecainide. Please view the screen shots provided.

Outstanding Physician Comments

[Applies to All Physicians](#)

Each week we receive written comments from our patients regarding the care we provide within the Hospital. Below are this week's comments from grateful patients receiving care on the units and clinics at Upstate:

5W Inpatient Psychiatry - CC – Dr. Reyes listens and responds extremely well to me and helped me when I felt hopeless.

Adolescent Medicine- Dr Teelin – very kind, knowledgeable and thorough.
Dr. Teelin: Amazing, caring, and actually has conversation with child.

Center for Children's Surgery- Dr Wali was amazing.

Upstate Pediatric & Adolescent Center – love **Dr. Blatt**.
Dr. Blatt - caring/professional all support staff friendly and cheerful.
Dr. Anuja Khetry. She is the best. My daughter loves her.

ALERT-Highest priority emergency communication; warrants immediate action or attention by the recipient.

HIGH ADVISORY-High priority does not warrant immediate action but recipients should be aware.

ADVISORY-Provides very important information for a specific incident or situation that does not require immediate action.

UPDATES TO ALERTS AND ADVISORIES-Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

INFORMATIONAL MESSAGE-Provides timely information, important for review or serves as a reminder for an action that should be taken.

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Upstate Pediatrics - We love **Dr. Schurman**.
Always love **Dr. Kresel**.

Wellspring Breast Center - **Dr. Willer** was very efficient and explained the entire procedure to me.

Interventional Radiology - **Drs. Dianbo Zhang and Katsuhiko Kobayashi** – Very professional and accommodating.

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New Changes to Cardiac Medication ordering

Providers will now need to input BP and heart rate (pulse) parameters for **all** cardiac medications. This is how it will look for the provider when ordering:

atenolol (TENORMIN) tablet 50 mg ✓ Accept ✗ Cancel Link Order Remove

Reference: 1. Lexi-Comp

Links:

Dose: mg mg mg mg mg

Administer Dose: 50 mg
Administer Amount: 1 tablet

Route:

Frequency:

For: Doses Hours Days

Starting:

First Dose: [Show Additional Options](#) ⌵

First Dose: **Tomorrow 0900** Last Dose: **Sat 9/9 0900** Number of doses: **30**

Scheduled Times: [Hide Schedule](#) [Adjust Schedule](#)
8/11/17 0900
Based on system settings, only one day of scheduled times is shown.

Admin. Inst.: [Check vital signs before administering](#)

Note to Pharmacy: [Click to add text \(F6\)](#)

Notify provider if heart rate less than

Notify provider if systolic blood pressure less than

Notify provider if diastolic blood pressure less than

Other Parameters

Parameters will now be mandatory for **all** cardiac medications and providers must be notified by nurse if not given.

This is how it will look on the MAR for the nurse:

✕ **atenolol (TENORMIN) tablet 50 mg** : Dose 50 mg

  

Admin Instructions:
Check vital signs before administering

Ordered Admin Amount: 1 tablet (1 × 50 mg tablet)
Frequency: Daily Standard
Route: Oral
Order Dose: 50 mg

Order Questions/Answers
Notify provider if heart rate less than 60
Notify provider if systolic blood pressure less than 100

Order Start Time: Tomorrow 08/11/17 at 0900
Order End Time: 09/10/17 at 0859
Administrations Remaining: 29 (+1 in progress)
References: [Lexicomp](#)

Next Actions

08/11	08/12	08/13
0900	0900	0900

Ordering parameters will assist the nurse with administration. There are 2 main reasons for the changes:

1. Providers need to be made aware anytime a cardiac medication is not given. In the past the meds may have not been given for extended periods due to low BP or pulse without the provider being notified. This is especially detrimental if a patient has congestive heart failure or an arrhythmia.
2. This new ordering practice will help improve prescriber-nurse communication and patient care.

Flecainide Administration

Flecainide is an antiarrhythmic. Patients on flecainide should be prescribed a concomitant AV nodal-blocking agent (eg, beta-blocker, nondihydropyridine calcium channel blocker or digoxin). **Holding or not administering the AV nodal blocking agent, when ordered could be fatal!**

The prescriber must indicate reason(s) for not ordering an AV nodal blocking agent concurrently with the flecainide.

Role of AV nodal blocking agents: A paradoxical increase in the ventricular rate also may occur in patients with atrial fibrillation who receive **Flecainide**. Concomitant therapy such as digoxin or **beta-blockers** may lower the risk of this complication.

Nursing has been educated to ensure that an AV nodal blocking agent is given concurrently with flecainide. If not ordered nurses will be looking for a note in the MAR as to the provider's reason for not ordering the AV nodal blocking agent.

The following is the BPA that the providers will receive from the Admission Medication Reconciliation so that the correct medications are ordered:

BestPractice Advisory - Adt,Maya

You are attempting to order Flecainide without an AV nodal blocker. Please use the following orders that have been approved by the P&T committee to complete this ordering.

Order	Do Not Order	<input type="checkbox"/> FLECAINIDE AND METOPROLOL TARTRATE
Order	Do Not Order	<input type="checkbox"/> FLECAINIDE AND METOPROLOL SUCCINATE
Order	Do Not Order	<input type="checkbox"/> FLECAINIDE AND DILTIAZEM
Order	Do Not Order	<input type="checkbox"/> FLECAINIDE AND DILTIAZEM SR 12 HR
Order	Do Not Order	<input type="checkbox"/> FLECAINIDE AND DILTIAZEM CD 24 HR
Order	Do Not Order	<input type="checkbox"/> FLECAINIDE AND ATENOLOL
Order	Do Not Order	<input type="checkbox"/> FLECAINIDE AND CARVEDILOL
Order	Do Not Order	<input type="checkbox"/> FLECAINIDE AND BISOPROLOL
Order	Do Not Order	<input type="checkbox"/> FLECAINIDE AND NEBIVOLOL
Order	Do Not Order	<input type="checkbox"/> FLECAINIDE AND DIGOXIN
Order	Do Not Order	<input type="checkbox"/> FLECAINIDE AND NO AV NODAL BLOCKING AGENT

Acknowledge Reason

Cardiology Consult Needed

Once the patient is an inpatient, these medication panels, are the only way that Flecainide can be ordered.

FLECAINIDE AND ATENOLOL	141356
FLECAINIDE AND BISOPROLOL	141358
FLECAINIDE AND CARVEDILOL	141357
FLECAINIDE AND DIGOXIN	141360
FLECAINIDE AND DILTIAZEM	141353
FLECAINIDE AND DILTIAZEM CD 24 HR	141355
FLECAINIDE AND DILTIAZEM SR 12 HR	141354
FLECAINIDE AND METOPROLOL SUCCINATE	141352
FLECAINIDE AND METOPROLOL TARTRATE	141351
FLECAINIDE AND NEBIVOLOL	141359
FLECAINIDE AND NO AV NODAL BLOCKING AGENT	142539

Warning to nurse

This is how it will look on the MAR for the nurse when administering with an AV nodal blocking agent:

flecainide (TAMBOCOR) tablet 100 mg : Dose 100 mg : Oral : Every 12 hours Standard (2 times per day) : 0900 Due

Admin Instructions:
 Patients prescribed flecainide should be receiving a concurrent AV nodal blocking agent (i.e., beta-blockers, diltiazem, verapamil, digoxin). If vital signs are outside of specified parameters contact the provider.
 Do not administer flecainide without the AV nodal blocking agent

Ordered Admin
 Amount: 2 tablet (2 x 50 mg tablet)

atenolol (TENORMIN) tablet 50 mg : Dose 50 mg : Oral : Daily Standard : 0900 Due

Admin Instructions:
 Check vital signs before administering

Ordered Admin
 Amount: 1 tablet (1 x 50 mg tablet)
 Frequency: Daily Standard
 Route: Oral
 Order Dose: 50 mg

Order Start Time: Today 08/22/17 at 0900
 Order End Time: 09/21/17 at 0859
 Administrations Remaining: 30

References: [Lexicomp](#)

Order Questions/Answers
 Notify provider if heart rate less than 60
 Notify provider if systolic blood pressure less 120 than

Next Actions: 08/22 0900 | 08/23 0900 | 08/24 0900
[Adjust Times](#)

These meds are linked in the MAR and must be given together

This is how it will look for the nurse when purposefully ordered with **no** AV nodal blocking agent:

flecainide (TAMBOCOR) tablet 100 mg : Dose 100 mg : Oral : Every 12 hours Standard (2 times per day) :

1345 Due

Admin Instructions:

Patients prescribed flecainide should be receiving a concurrent AV nodal blocking agent (i.e., beta-blockers, diltiazem, verapamil, digoxin). If vital signs are outside of specified parameters contact the provider.
****Do not administer flecainide without the AV nodal blocking agent****

Ordered Admin
Amount: 2 tablet (2 x 50 mg tablet)

no AV nodal blocking agent required : Other : Every 12 hours Standard (2 times per day)

1345 Due

Order Questions/Answers

This patient is not taking an AV nodal-blocking agent because of the following reason: Wolff-Parkinson-White (WPW) syndrome

The nurse will need to document "Not Given" and the reason