Patient needs advanced pain management

Does the patient have a contraindication* to ketamine or dexmedetomidine?

ED Actions:
Use “CKI” order set to place following orders:
• Place 2 PIVs
• Initiate HR, BP, SpO2 monitoring

Has patient received any ketamine within the past 2 hours?

Consider IV ketamine bolus of 0.2 mg/kg (MAX 15 mg)

Use “CKI” order set to order ketamine infusion
• Use ONLY Infusion and monitoring orders (do not order non-narcotic or side effect medications)
• Begin low dose ketamine at 0.15 mg/kg/hr (MAX 15 mg/hr)
  • Consider dose reduction for renal impairment
• Order dexmedetomidine infusion and begin at 0.25 mcg/kg/hr (MAX 25 mcg/hr)

Admit to Hem/Onc floor, management by Hem/Onc Service

Yes

Complete transfer to PICU

No

Admit patient to PICU
Consult Acute Pain Service
Consult Hem/Onc

* Contraindications:
Ketamine
• Allergy to ketamine
• Liver failure
• Myocardial ischemia
• Age < 3 yrs
• Pregnancy
• Schizophrenia/schizoaffective disorder
• Bipolar disorder
• Concern for increased ICP
• Uncontrolled HTN
• Cerebral vascular disease
• Severe hypovolemia
• Cardiac failure
• Pulmonary HTN
• Seizure history
• Thyrotoxicosis
• Patient/family refusal

Dexmedetomidine
• Allergy to dexmedetomidine
• Significant bradycardia
• Significant hypotension
• Patient/family refusal

Inclusion Criteria:
• Admission for Sickle Cell VOC
• Not intubated
• Age > 3 yrs
• Unresolved pain with short-term opioids
• Poor side effect profile with opioid use

Disclaimers:
Pathways are intended as a guide for practitioners and do not indicate an exclusive course of treatment nor serve as a standard of medical care. These pathways should be adapted by medical providers, when indicated, based on their professional judgement and taking into account individual patient and family circumstances.

ChildrensNebraska.org/Pathways
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