



**PREPARATION FOR ADMINISTRATION OF
LOCAL ANAESTHETIC GUIDELINE**


Version Number	V2
Date of Issue	July 2018
Reference Number	PALA-07-2018-RC-V2
Review Interval	3 yearly
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Document Review History

Review Date	Reviewed By	Signature
2021		


Document Change History

Change to Document	Reason for Change

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1.0 Introduction

This guideline provides guidance to the practitioner caring for a Child undergoing local anaesthesia.

2.0 Indication for

Local Anaesthesia is used to provide additional pain relief for the patient undergoing a surgical procedure of a less invasive nature.

3.0 Definition of Guideline

Local anaesthetic depresses 'superficial peripheral nerves and blocks the conduction of pain impulses from their site of origin' (Berry & Kohn 2016)

4.0 Definitions

Local anaesthetic depresses 'superficial peripheral nerves and blocks the conduction of pain impulses from their site of origin' (Berry & Kohn 2016)

5.0 Complications

Associated with local anaesthetic agents include cardiovascular, respiratory and central nervous system depression Berry & Kohn (2016)

Adverse reactions can occur due to hypersensitivity to the local anaesthetic agent and/or toxicity due to excessive dose of the agent

Symptoms of hypersensitivity include, but are not confined to the following:


- Urticaria
- Tachycardia
- Laryngeal oedema leading to respiratory difficulties
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Increased body temperature
- Severe hypotension
- Anaphylactic shock

(AORN 2018)

Symptoms of toxicity include, but are not confined to the following:

- Restlessness
- Unexplained anxiety
- Diaphoresis
- Nausea
- Palpitations
- Disturbed respiration
- Pallor or flushing
- Syncope
- Convulsive movements

(AORN 2018)

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A hypotensive episode may occur gradually or suddenly.

The heart rate can change from normal to tachycardiac to bradycardiac with faintness and/or dizziness which may lead to cardiac arrest


6.0 Guidelines for

Registered Nurses caring for the patient undergoing local anaesthesia

7.0 Equipment

- Dressing trolley
- Sterile dressing pack
- Hibitane cleaning solution
- 5ml syringes x 2 with blue gauge & orange gauge needle
- Dressing (band aid)

ACTION	RATIONALE & REFERENCE
<p>Prepare all airway equipment with oxygen and suction, monitoring & emergency equipment available & in working order.</p> <p>Warm the anaesthetic room and/or the operating room prior to the arrival of the patient to the department.</p> <p>It is important to be aware of the patients past medical history & allergies prior to this procedure.</p> <p>Welcome the Child and Parent into the anaesthetic room.</p> <p>Explain to the child & parent, how the procedure will proceed and that close monitoring will be performed throughout the procedure.</p> <p>Continuous observation and monitoring of the patients cardiovascular, respiratory & mental status will ensue before, during and after the surgical procedure.</p>	<p>This preparation ensures patient safety (Wood head & Wicker 2005) while caring for the patient undergoing local anaesthesia.</p> <p>Preparation is essential so all equipment is readily available to intervene if an adverse reaction should occur.</p> <p>Patients undergoing a surgical procedure with local anaesthesia can experience significant bleeding (AORN 2018). Increasing the ambient temperature and using warming devices on the patient, increases the body temperature thus reducing the risk of bleeding (Sessler 2000)</p> <p>Such knowledge reduces risk to the patient thus enhancing patient safety. (Wood head & Wicker 2005)</p> <p>Explanations alleviates patient & child anxiety (Wong 2003)</p> <p>This will obtain a baseline for this patient, which will allow us to detect a deviance during the procedure. Wood head & Wicker (2005)</p>

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<p>Monitoring includes, but are not confined to,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heart rate & rhythm using ECG • Respiratory rate, depth, use of accessory muscles • Blood pressure • Oxygen saturation • Body temperature • Mental status and level of consciousness. <p>In the event of adverse significant changes, the registered nurse must report to the anaesthetist and promptly initiate appropriate interventions.</p> <p>The dose, route & time of the local anaesthetic administration must be monitored.</p> <p>Monitor the child for any signs of discomfort using the appropriate pain assessment tool for the age of the patient.</p> <p>Report to the anaesthetist if the child shows signs of discomfort.</p> <p>On completion of the surgical procedure ensure the patient, is comfortable, vital signs are within normal limits for the child's age and the child has no symptoms of pain.</p> <p>Document all nursing care given in the theatre department</p>	<p>Those observations ensure that potential complications are detected early and reporting deviations to the anaesthetist ensuring, prompt intervention reducing the risk of adverse effects on the patient. (AORN 2005)</p> <p>Prompt intervention will reduce the risk of adverse effects on the patient. Be aware of the Local Anaesthetic Toxicity protocol and sourcing Intralipid medication stored in the pharmacy room.(AAGBI 2010) (AORN 2018)</p> <p>This ensures patient safety, while adhering to An Board Atlantis guide to Drug Administration. (NMBI 2007)</p> <p>Good pain relief relies on accurate assessment of pain the child experiences (Wood head & Wicker 2005)</p> <p>It is recommended that the theatre department should have a discharge criteria, this ensures the patient's condition is stable and he/she will be transferred to an area with appropriate supervision for their condition. (AORN 2018)</p> <p>Documentation is essential for the continuity of care.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(AORN 2018)</p>
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8.0 References (as necessary)

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