

**PREPARATION FOR ADMINISTRATION OF
LOCAL ANAESTHETIC GUIDELINE**


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1.0 Introduction

This guideline provides guidance to the nurse 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>Preparation is essential so all equipment is readily available to intervene if an adverse reaction should occur (Langton 2015).</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 (Beedle et al 2017)</p> <p>Such knowledge reduces risk to the patient thus enhancing patient safety. (AAGBI 2010)</p> <p>Explanations alleviates patient & child anxiety (Hockenberry et al 2016)</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, dept, 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>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. The child will meet Recovery room discharge prior to leaving Theatre.</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 2018)</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 & protocol stored in the pharmacy room.(AAGBI 2010) (AORN 2018)</p> <p>This ensures patient safety, while adhering to An Board Altrantis guide to Drug Administration. (NMBI 2007)</p> <p>Effective pain relief relies on accurate assessment of pain the child experiences (Machoki 2015)</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 (NMBI 2016)</p>
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8.0 References

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