

For Allergies Refer to Electronic Record

Bowel Care Clinical Protocol

sodium phosphate enema is contraindicated for patients in renal failure

Patient Population

- Patients with history or at risk for developing constipation while in hospital
- Patients receiving opioid therapy who have not had bowel surgery in the last year

Exclusion

- Patients who are on Enteral Nutrition Clinical Protocol
- Patients with acute spinal cord injury

Clinical Protocol Orders

- If newly admitted and experiencing constipation longer than 96 hours or if unable to identify date of last bowel movement, then begin protocol with Step 2
- Once desired results are achieved return to Step 1
- If vomiting, abdominal pain develops or diarrhea stools x 3 'Hold' this Clinical Protocol and notify MD
- If patient in renal failure and an enema is required, then notify MD and request a substitute order

Non-Opioid: For patients not on scheduled and/or not regularly taking PRN narcotics

Step	Medication
1. Baseline	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No medication
2. Last BM more than 48 hours ago	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> lactulose 30 mL PO once today <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If no results by next a.m. proceed to step 3
3. Last BM more than 72 hours ago	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase lactulose to 30 mL PO BID <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Add senna 17.2 mg PO after breakfast today <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If no results in 24 hours proceed to step 4
4. Last BM more than 96 hours ago	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continue with lactulose 30 mL PO BID AND senna 17.2 mg PO after breakfast today <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If no results after 6 hours, sodium phosphate enema once <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If no results from sodium phosphate enema, notify MD

Opioid: For patients on scheduled and/or regularly taking PRN narcotics

Step	Medication
1. Baseline	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> lactulose 30 mL PO daily <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If no results in 48 hours proceed to step 2
2. Last BM more than 48 hours ago	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase lactulose to 30 mL PO BID today <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If no results in 24 hours proceed to step 3
3. Last BM more than 72 hours ago	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continue with lactulose 30 mL PO BID today <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Add senna 17.2 mg PO after breakfast today <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If no results in 24 hours proceed to step 4
4. Last BM more than 96 hours ago	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continue with lactulose 30 mL PO BID AND senna 17.2 mg PO after breakfast today <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If no results after 6 hours, sodium phosphate enema once <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If no results from sodium phosphate enema, notify MD

Termination of Clinical Protocol

- On discharge or by MD order

