**ALCOHOL WITHDRAWAL PREVENTION/TREATMENT ORDERS**  
**DIAZEPAM (VALIUM)**  
**PAGE 1 OF 2**

**Allergy/Sensitivities and Reactions:**

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- Consult Behavioral Health. _______________________________ Reason: ____________________________________________________
- Consult Addiction Medicine _______________________________ Reason: ____________________________________________________
- Consult Social Work for assessment and aftercare for alcohol use disorder.

**MEDICATIONS:**

**NUTRITIONAL SUPPORT**

- Thiamine 100 mg in 50 ml Normal Saline IV piggyback times 1 dose. (Administer over 15-30 minutes.)
- Thiamine 100 mg orally daily on days two and three
- Folic Acid 1 mg orally once daily for three days
- Multivitamin 1 tablet/capsule orally daily for three days
- If patient NPO add Thiamine 100 mg, Folic Acid 1mg, multivitamin 10 ml to first IV bag daily for three days.
- IV fluid ___________________________________________________ at _________ml/hour.
- Magnesium Sulfate Replacement per policy (For Adult ICU Patients only)
- Magnesium Sulfate □ 1 gm □ 2 gm OR □ 4 gm IV piggyback times one over 6 hours.

**Wernicke Korsakoff Syndrome Treatment**

- Thiamine 200 mg in 50 ml Normal Saline IV piggyback times 1 dose. (Administer over 15-30 minutes.)

**ANTI-PSYCHOTIC/ANTI-AGITATION MEASURES (only as adjunctive therapy after adequate sedative use.)**

- Haloperidol (Haldol) 5mg orally or IM every 4 hours as needed (maximum dose: 15 mg/day.)
  (for hallucinations, delusions, agitation not adequately controlled by Lorazepam)
  (Caution: may lower seizure threshold. QTc should be less than 450 msec.)
- Other:___________________________________________________________

**ANTI-EMETICS: (Phenothiazines may lower seizure threshold and are not recommended).**

- Ondansetron (Zofran) 4 mg orally every 6 hours as needed for nausea or vomiting
- Ondansetron (Zofran) 4 mg IV every 6 hours as needed for nausea or vomiting
- Other:___________________________________________________________

**ANTI-PYRETICS/ANALGESICS: (Select one): Caution re: Gl Bleeding with NSAID.**

- Acetaminophen (Tylenol) 325 mg orally every 4 hours as needed for temperature greater than 100°F or for pain. (maximum dose 2gm/day for first 5 days.) Caution re: Hepatotoxicity.
- Ibuprofen (Motrin) 400 mg orally every 6 hours as needed for temperature greater than 100°F or for pain.
- Other:___________________________________________________________

**NURSING**

- DO NOT mix benzodiazepine use (use either diazepam protocol or lorazepam protocol, not both).
  Patients may be switched from the lorazepam protocol to the diazepam protocol.
  Patients should NOT be switched from the diazepam protocol to the lorazepam protocol.

**Emergency Verbal Order or Telephone Order / Read back by:**

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Transcriber’s Signature: Date: Time:  
Prescriber’s Printed Name: Noting Nurse’s Signature: Date: Time:

Prescriber’s Signature: Complete Call Back Number ( ) ___ ___ ___ - ___ ___ ___ ___  Date: Time:

Form faxed to pharmacy: Date/Time: By:  
01-9310-031 REVISED 9/7/12  
White - Chart Copy - Transmit to Pharmacy  
Alcohol Withdrawal Prevention/Treatment Diazepam (Valium) Orders Page 1 of 2
**Nursing (Continued)**

- Do not use CIWA scale in mechanically ventilated patients
- Do not use clonazepam (Klonopin) under any circumstances.
- Call physician:
  - If blood pressure less than 90/60 mmHg, respiratory rate less than or equal to 8; pulse oximetry less than or equal to 90%.
  - Reassess for concurrent diseases / causes (e.g. sepsis, etc).
- If patient continues to have significant alcohol withdrawal symptoms with increasing CIWA score while on the protocol.
- Consider stopping protocol if CIWA score less than 4 for 24 hours after treatment stops.
- Document CIWA score, treatment and reassessment.
- Do NOT hold diazepam if patient is sleeping. Wake patient if sleeping to repeat CIWA.
- Include vital signs and pulse oximetry with each CIWA assessment.
- Seizure Precautions
- Fall Precautions
- **Nursing to provide Alcohol Recovery patient education material and review with patient prior to discharge.**
- Oral medication is preferred unless the patient is NPO, unable to swallow or quicker action is required.
- **Symptom Triggered Therapy** Select for patients with no history of alcohol withdrawal seizures or severe withdrawal.
  - If CIWA greater than or equal to 5 give diazepam 10 mg IV times 1, THEN
  - Start symptom triggered therapy
  
<table>
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<tr>
<th>CIWA Score</th>
<th>Diazepam/ (Valium) dose*</th>
<th>CIWA Re-Assessment, Dosing and Documentation Schedule</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 - 9</td>
<td>5 mg IV / PO</td>
<td>Repeat CIWA one hour after each dose for Response*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 - 14</td>
<td>10 mg IV / PO</td>
<td>Same or / Increasing every 4 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 - 19</td>
<td>10 mg IV AND call physician</td>
<td>Stable and / or Decreasing every 4 hours</td>
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  *CIWA 20 or greater, call Rapid Response Team, contact intensivists, and consult Addiction Medicine

  *Administer diazepam at a rate not exceeding 5 mg/minute.

**Response**

- If CIWA is 5 points HIGHER than prior score, immediately give next dose for current score then call physician for re-consideration of additional dosing.
- If CIWA is 5 points LOWER than the last score, repeat CIWA just before next scheduled dose and medicate according to score.

**Add Fixed Dose Along With Above Symptom Triggered Therapy**

For patients with history of alcohol withdrawal seizures, severe alcohol withdrawal or benzodiazepine tolerance.
Avoid adding fixed dose therapy in patients who are elderly or have a history of liver disease.

- Oral diazepam is preferred for patients who require fixed dose therapy.
  - Diazepam (Valium) 10 mg PO every 6 hours times 4 doses, then reassess
  - OR
  - Diazepam (Valium) 10 mg IV every 6 hours times 4 doses, then reassess

**AND**

- Re-evaluate continued need for fixed dose therapy after 24 hours

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Alcohol Withdrawal Prevention/Treatment

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