

CQI Alerts

May
2007

OBSERVATIONS BY THE CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR UWMC ANESTHESIOLOGY



PHENYLEPHRINE IS NOW PREPARED IN 200MCG/CC

OR Pharmacy Phenylephrine syringes and infusions are now premixed at 200mcg/cc (to match the dosage used in ICU). THERE ARE NO MORE 100MCG/CC PREMIXED SYRINGES.



FILTER ALL BLOOD PRODUCTS

Filter all blood products (blood, platelets, cryoprecipitate, and fresh frozen plasma) upon administration.

- Albumin does not need to be given through a blood administration set.
- Blood and fresh frozen plasma can be given through a *fluid warmer*.
- Cryoprecipitate and platelets should not be given through a *fluid warmer*. Use a clean, new filter set.

Use the Y tubing with universal filter inline. These are located on the anesthesia carts and in the anesthesia workroom (Drawer #56).

Anesthesia's blood administration sets have 200 micron filters. Only cardiac perfusion circuits have 40 micron filters (which should be replaced every 4th unit).



SCOPOLAMINE PATCH PLACEMENT

Avoid placing scopolamine patches on children, patients with glaucoma, arrhythmias, or who are over 65 years old, or in the absence of general anesthesia.



JET VENTILATOR TROUBLESHOOTING

If the jet ventilator stops cycling, the usual problem is that the machine is reading a high pressure due to KINKED TUBING.

- Check the sample line, or discharge lumen.
- Straighten out tubing (especially the point where the tubing exits the oral cavity).
- Reset the machine.

IT IS NOT A MECHANICAL PROBLEM; IT IS THE HIGH PRESSURE SAFETY MECHANISM. POSITIONING IS THE KEY.



USE SOFT BITE BLOCKS WHEN JAW CLENCHING IS COMMON

Use soft bite blocks for cases where jaw clenching may occur.

- *Examples:* ECT's, Cardioversions, ICD placements

Hard bite blocks could injure teeth, or dental appliances.



NEW PROTOCOLS FOR BIVALIRUDIN AND COPING WITH CRITICAL INCIDENTS

New/revised UWMC Anesthesia Protocols are available at www.uwanesthesiology.org/protocols

- Bivalirudin protocol replaces Hirudin protocol.
- Guide to help staff cope with post-traumatic stress following a critical incident at work.