

Mary Greeley Medical Center
Administrative Operational Policy
Pain Management

POLICY:

This policy was developed as a guide for the delivery of health services and is not intended to define the standard of care. Hospital personnel may deviate from this guide to provide appropriate individualized care and treatment for each patient.

Pain is assessed in all patients utilizing a pain rating scale that is consistent with the scope of care treatment and services and the patient's condition.

Pain management interventions are individualized and implemented based on assessment and the least invasive and safest route.

PURPOSE:

To provide guidelines for the effective and safe management of pain.

DEFINITION:

Pain Assessment and Vital Signs Measures Contributing to Pain Documentation, including Effectiveness and Safety, include:

- Level of consciousness
- Respirations
- Blood Pressure
- Pulse
- Pain Rating
- Pain Characteristics
- Pain Goal

PROCEDURE:

Initial Assessment:

- Pain assessment will be documented upon admission to medical center and with any onset of new pain
- Pain will be assessed a minimum of once per shift

Reassessment of Effectiveness and Safety

- Reassessment of pain for pharmacologic interventions will be documented within timeframe appropriate for route of medication given.
- Pain intervention effectiveness will be reassessed with the documentation of a pain goal upon admission and with any new onset of pain.
- Patient safety with use of pharmacologic interventions is monitored with the use of the Respiratory Depression Score and the Acute Care Team (ACT) Score at MGMC. Refer to the Acute Care Team (ACT) Guideline.

Note on Pain Rating Scales

There are a number of pain rating scales available depending on the needs of the patient. They are verbal numeric rating scale, FACES pain assessment tool, FLACC behavioral pain assessment scale, Neonatal infant pain scale. When possible one scale will be used for one patient for consistency. Tool should be appropriate for the patient's developmental, physical, emotional, and cognitive status.

Note on Individualized Pain Interventions

Patients may receive lesser dose or lesser strength of pain medication than what objective pain "rating" might indicate. Refer to PH615 Essential Elements of Complete, Safe, and Accurate Physician Orders for Medications

Patient Teaching for Patients with Pain:

- Discussion of all interventions available including non-pharmacological options. Link to Pain Management Lippincott
- Discussion of realistic pain goals.
- Discussion of reporting of pain level and requesting as needed medications.

Approval:

1/2023 Pain Committee

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