

Morphine infusion is the standard analgesia especially for preschool children, not old enough to manage PCAS. A standard Morphine infusion is;

1. Morphine Bolus (100 mcg/kg) given in theatre.
2. 0.5 mg/kg morphine in 500 mls, (10 ml/hr=10 mcg/kg/hr)

PROTOCOL FOR PATIENT CONTROLLED ANALGESIA (PCAS)

PCAS is a safe and effective method of managing acute pain using a programmable syringe pump which allows each patient to administer their own morphine analgesia. A standard PCA regimen dose is.

Morphine Bolus (100 mcg/kg) given in theatre.

1. 0.6 mg/kg morphine in 30 mls, (1 ml/hr=10 mcg/kg/hour)
2. PCA Bolus 20 mcg/kg (1 mls) given stat.
3. Lockout interval 10 minutes.
4. Background rate 10 mcg/kg/hour (0.5 ml/hr)

PROTOCOL FOR EPIDURAL INFUSION

Prescription of Epidural Infusion:

The epidural will be sited aseptically and covered with bio-occlusive dressing. The site should be inspected 24 hourly.

The standard dose is; 40mls 0.25% Marcain and 10mls Fentanyl in 50 ml syringe.

1. 0.2 mls/kg given in theatre prior to surgery.
2. Infusion rate 0.15 mls/kg/hour
3. Infusion dose increased by 10-20% of initial.
(Maximum rate of 0.2 ml/kg/hr.)

Observations:

1. TPR & BP initially every 15 minutes then hourly.
2. The syringe setting and dose to be checked hourly.
3. Syringe changes will be the responsibility of the prescribing anaesthetist; CALL if problems.

Problems:

If respiratory rate < 10/minute; OR BP < 70 mmHg

1. STOP infusion
2. Call Doctor
3. Manage airway/breathing etc. (ie. RESUSCITATE)
4. Give Naloxone 0.01 mg/kg i.v.
5. Prepare to give HPPF 10 mls/kg