Die cut area



- Regular and breakthrough

chart

Cancer pain medication

12/01

Western **HEALTH** Sydney

WSMR-1470

Cancer Pain Management Plan

New pain Treated pain Commence with simple analgesia Chart the patient's regular opioid Chart and encourage regular Commence a regular opioid oreakthrough opioid Titrate the opioid to itrate the opioid to effective pain relief effective pain relief

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING MEDICATION CHART

- 1. Before ordering opioids on this chart, discontinue opioids on all other medication charts.
- 2. The chart should be written against a hird surface, press firmly using a black ballpoint pen only.
- 3. Patient's detais musice nandwritten by medical officer.
- 4. All entries must be legible. Use block letters for drug names. Abbreviations are not permitted.
- 5. Use generic names of drugs, unless prescribing combination preparations or modified
- 6. Each individual order is to be signed **separately**. Bracketing is not permitted.
- 7. Any drug reactions experienced by the patient previously should be entered and described in the drug reaction section. For no previous reactions, record as NIL KNOWN.
- 8. To discontinue a drug order, the prescriber will draw two oblique lines in the administration column at the day of discontinuation of the drug and sign and date it. A single oblique line will also be drawn through the drug name.
- 9. If **any** changes are made to a drug order e.g. dose, route, frequency, a completely new order is to be written. No alterations should be made to the original order.
- 10. When ordering a dose using decimal notation write a zero (0) before it, eg. 0.125mg. Never write a zero (0) after a whole unit eg. 1.0 is incorrect.
- 11. Do not abbreviate micrograms, units or nanograms.
- 12. When using the regular medication chart for non-daily administration eg. once weekly methotrexate, specify the day of administration and on the "record of administration" cross out the days that the medication is NOT to be administered.
- 13. Prescriptions are valid for $7^{1/2}$ days from the date of the first prescription on the chart.
- 14. All medication which is to be continued for more than 7^{1/2} days past the date of the first prescription is to be represcribed on a new chart.

Instructions for use of the Cancer Pain Management Plan

Introduction

Severe chronic pain due to malignant disease does not respond to analgesia on a 'PRN' basis. It does respond to appropriate combinations of analgesics and co-analgesics given on a regular basis.

How to use this chart.

1. This chart allows for opiods to be ordered on a regular basis with the allowance for breakthrough opioid to be given. The chart also enables the recording of pain score and pain site when each dose is given.

2. Initiating treatment

Prescribing medical officers must complete the pain classification section prior to opioid commencement.

3. Starting dose of opioid

(a) Patients not already on an opioid:

Commence an oral morphine equivalent dose of 5 - 10 mgs mediate release opioid.

Elderly/cachexic, 2.5 mgs

Depending on the severity of the pain, more may be recuired.

(b) Prescribe a breakthrough dose. The breakthrough dose is determined by halving the 4 hourly regular

4. Frequency

- Frequency
 (a) Immediate release opioids should be administered # hourly and slow release opioids 12 or 24 hourly Fentanyl patches are administered 3rd daily
- (b) Once the patient is on regular slow release preparation, it is still necessary to have a breakthrough dose ordered. Breakthrough dose is tof the 22 hourly SR dose. It is given in the form of immediate release opioid.

5. Pain scores

- (a) Recording of pain score + site is essential for each opioid dose administered to determine dose effectiveness.
- (b) Pain score

The patient is to be asked to rate their pain by a numeric scale

0 = no pain

10= worst pain you can imagine

Notes:

- 1. When first starting patients on opioid, advise patients and relatives of the possibility of initial drowsiness, nausea and constipation.
- 2. Utilise anti-emetics for vomiting related to the opioid.
- 3. Prescribe regular laxatives when commencing opioid.
- 4. Utilise co-analgesics as per pain presentation eq: NSAIDs for bone pain, paracetamol for tissue pain, tricyclic antidepressants or anticonvulsants for nerve compression pain.

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									→ Die cut area											
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DO NOT APPLY STICKY LABEL