

CREDIT VALLEY

THE CREDIT VALLEY HOSPITAL

CLINICAL PATHWAY ALCOHOL WITHDRAWAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Inclusion Criteria: Alcohol dependency
Acutely withdrawing from alcohol in ED

Exclusion Criteria: Acutely intoxicated or alcohol poisoning
Patients admitted to hospital

Clinical Pathways are not considered a substitute for professional judgement

Phase:	Acute CIWA-Ar Score greater than 10	Observation CIWA-Ar Score less than or equal to 10	Disposition CIWA-Ar Score less than or equal to 10 x 2 consecutive assessments
Date:	/ / hrs	/ / hrs	/ / hrs
Patient Outcomes	CIWA-Ar score less than or equal to 10 Discharge plan initiated Clinical Indicator #1: Patient exhibits no seizure activity Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Discharge disposition determined Medically stable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Normal VS • CIWA-Ar measurements less than or equal to 10 x 2 consecutive assessments • GCS = 15 Clinical Indicator #2: CIWA-Ar Score is maintained at less than or equal to 10 Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Post discharge follow-up arranged
Teaching	Signs and Symptoms of alcohol withdrawal Patient handout given to patient/family	Signs and Symptoms of alcohol withdrawal Patient handout given to patient/family	Community Addiction Resource List Patient information package on alcohol withdrawal Alcohol and Drug Treatment Program brochure
Discharge Planning Criteria	If meets criteria for alcohol dependence and/or seizure activity, notify the Ministry of Transportation	Consider admission if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater than 80 mg diazepam administered • CIWA-Ar not less than or equal to 10 after 3 doses • Other uncontrolled medical conditions • Lack of social support 	Notify Ministry of Transportation if concerned with patient's ability to drive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to Drug & Alcohol program • Ensure safe transportation home arranged • Not to drive if taking diazepam • Document that medically stable for detox centre as required
Pathway Reviewed with Patient/Family: (Initial)			
	Yes _____ No _____	Yes _____ No _____	Yes _____ No _____
Patient/Family Satisfied with Progress?			
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> if NO, see progress notes	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> if NO, see progress notes	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> if NO, see progress notes
Signatures:	_____	_____	_____
	Initials _____	Initials _____	Initials _____

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INTERVENTIONS:			
Assessments	History and Physical VS q1h if po diazepam VS q15-30 min if IV diazepam Assess for falls/injury CIWA-Ar q1h Level of consciousness Family supports	CIWA-Ar q1h and VS x 1 as long as CIWA-Ar remains less than or equal to 10	CIWA-Ar prior to discharge VS prior to discharge
Consults	Crisis Team	Crisis Team	Crisis Team to arrange follow-up care
Tests	Accucheck if drowsy Labwork as per preprinted Physician's Order Alcohol Withdrawal Emergency Management	None	
Treatments	IV access D5 in Normal Saline or D5W	IV maintained	D/C IV
Medications	Thiamine 100 mg IM/IV x 1 Multivitamins 10 mL/L x 1 Mg Sulphate 2 gm IV x 1 Benzodiazepines according to Dosing Guidelines on preprinted orders and patient's CIWA-Ar score	Withdraw from treatment if CIWA-Ar less than or equal to 10	Take home prescription as required
Nutrition	Correct dehydration and hypoglycemia DAT, no caffeine beverages Encourage oral intake	Correct dehydration and hypoglycemia DAT, no caffeine beverages Encourage oral intake	DAT
Activity/ Safety	If diazepam given: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 side rails up • Call bell within reach • Place in close observation area • Reduce sensory stimuli 	CIWA-Ar less than or equal to 10 AAT with assistance	AAT
Elimination	CIWA-Ar greater than 10: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urinal, bedpan or commode 	CIWA-Ar less than or equal to 10 BRP with assistance	BRP