



QR code for mobile view

Inpatient to discharge

Patient ready for transfer from CICU to 4 Sutherland

- Blue Team receives hand-off from CICU
- Patient assessed by Blue Team in CICU and meets family

Patient is transferred to 4 Sutherland

Vitals
Wean oxygen
◦ Room air or home O₂
Chest tube
◦ Monitor output
◦ Remove chest tubes
Heart rhythm
◦ Monitor and remove pacing wires

Diet
Encourage PO intake - advance as tolerated
Initiate bowel regimen
PRN ondansetron for nausea/vomiting
◦ 0.1 mg/kg/dose, max dose 4 mg

Pain Management
Ketorolac
◦ q6hr > 6 months
◦ Transition to PO ibuprofen 5-10 mg/kg/dose
Acetaminophen PO PRN
◦ 10-15 mg/kg/dose
◦ Scheduled for 48hrs
Opioids
◦ First line: PO oxycodone
◦ Second line: IV morphine
Erector Spinae Plane Catheter

Physical Activity
Holding
◦ Caregivers to hold infants
Ambulation
◦ In patients that can walk
Physical Therapy
◦ Consult for older patients if needed

Diuretics
IV Initially
◦ Transition to enteral once chest tubes removed
BMPs
◦ Trended
◦ Replace electrolytes as needed
◦ Monitored daily while on IV diuretics; when on oral diuretics and WNLs- stop monitoring
Kidney Function
◦ Monitored (same as BMPs)

Chest Tube Removal Criteria
(determined at 7am rounds by surgeon)
< 10 ml/kg in 24hrs
< 5 ml/kg in 12 hrs
< 200 ml for older children/teens/young adults

Pacing wires unlikely to be on Thoracotomy patients

Erector Spinae Plane Catheter
Pain team to follow if catheter in place

Discharge Readiness
Discharge Testing
◦ Post-op EKG and ECHO
◦ CXR s/p removal of chest tubes
Discharge Teaching
◦ Post-op care instructions reviewed by APRN w/family
◦ Provided hand-out and Get Well Network video
Incision Care
◦ APRN completes chest tube site care w/family

D/C day determined day before discharge
Anticipate to d/c by noon the following day

Discharge home
Follow-up appointments arranged with:
• CV surgery
• Outpatient cardiologist

Algorithms:
• [Prior to Surgery](#)
• [Intraop - Bypass](#)
• [Intraop - Thoracotomy](#)
• [CICU](#)

Abbreviations:
APRN = Advance Practice Registered Nurse
CICU = Cardiac Intensive Care Unit
CV = cardiovascular
WNLs = Within normal limits