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Post Operative Pain Management

For children, we like to use as little narcotic as possible. We recommend only using the liquid narcotic in twelve hour intervals. Use the tetracaine lollipop for severe/break through pain. Transdermal narcotics can be used if the child is too sore to swallow the liquid narcotic and may be given along with children's Tylenol or Motrin and with the tetracaine lollipop. Transdermal nausea medication can be given with any of the previously mentioned medications.

Home medication management

Lortab/Hycet elixir when awake in AM the every 12 hours

Children's Motrin 3 hours after Lortab elixir

Children's Tylenol and hydrocodone gel 3 hours after the Motrin

Children's Motrin 3 hours after Tylenol and Hydrocodone gel

Repeat process with the Lortab elixir 3 hours after Motrin

It is not necessary to wake child during the night for oral medications, but the hydrocodone gel can be used without waking the child to ease morning discomfort.

Typically pain medication that is taken by mouth has a faster onset of action with a stronger dosage of medication. If having trouble taking medications by mouth, we offer the following options:

TETRACINE LOLLIPOP

This lollipop releases a topical anesthetic that numbs everything it comes in contact with. The advantage of this is that it can soothe the oral cavity allowing for relief that sometimes makes swallowing oral medications more manageable. Because of the numbing agent some patients find the numbing sensation unpleasant. It can also be dissolved in a small amount of liquid, swished around the oral cavity and swallowed. The lollipop CAN be used with either the liquid or gel pain relief medication because it is not a narcotic.

TOPICAL NARCOTIC PAIN GEL

This can be applied to thin parts of skin like the wrist, neck or back of knees and is absorbed directly into the blood stream through the skin. Some patients are unable to tolerate oral pain medications because of oral cavity pain or nausea. Advantages of the gel include pain relief without swallowing medication, an option for pain control if vomiting and for use to help ease pain if patient is sleeping. The disadvantage is that many patients feel it is not as strong as the liquid narcotic. It also contains no acetaminophen or ibuprofen so these medications can be given with it. **Do not give the oral narcotic pain medication and the narcotic gel together as it can cause an overdose. Read all compounded medication directions well.**

All medications should be used as directed Please read the instructions about how much and how often medications can be administered.