

BRIEFING NOTE

PURPOSE:	Update Essential Drug Requirements for Deep Sedation and General Anaesthetic Service Facilities; Update Publishing Format for Epinephrine in Sedation Standards and Guidelines
DATE:	May 24, 2019
PREPARED FOR:	The Board
PREPARED BY:	Dr. Toby Bellamy
TOPIC:	Revised Essential Drug List for Deep Sedation and General Anaesthesia

SITUATION:

Essential drugs for deep sedation and general anaesthesia were last updated in December 2016. Since then, the American Heart Association (AHA) and Heart & Stroke Foundation have updated their guidelines and recommendations. As well, some of the emergency drugs are no longer utilized in the ACLS guidelines.

Currently, reference to epinephrine dosage is published in ratio formats (i.e. 1:1000); this is not in accordance with the Institute of Safe Medication Practices Canada's (ISMP Canada) recommendations.

BACKGROUND:

American Heart Association recently updated their ACLS guidelines in 2018. The new recommended dosage for lidocaine is made through weight-based dosing. According to the ACLS guidelines, both antiarrhythmic agents, Amiodarone and Lidocaine, have equal efficacy.

In April 2016, Heart & Stroke Foundation announced that ISMP Canada had recommended epinephrine strengths to be listed as the following in publications and clinical practice to reduce risk of errors:

Epinephrine 1:1000 as 1 mg/mL
Epinephrine 1:10,000 as 0.1 mg/mL

The rationale for this was that epinephrine dilutions may be difficult to differentiate because 1,000 may look like 10,000 in small print.

ASSESSMENT:



The Committee has compared the list of emergency drugs from the College of Physician of British Columbia and “the” Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario with the current CDSBC Deep Sedation and General Anaesthesia essential drug lists. After review, the Committee has developed a new essential drug list for deep sedation and general anaesthesia. Medications are categorized by drug classifications. Drug options are also available for some of the medications.

RECOMMENDATION:

Update essential drug lists for deep sedation and general anaesthetic service facilities. As well, remove Highly Recommend Drugs from Deep Sedation and General Anaesthetic Services Standards & Guidelines.

Revise all Epinephrine dosage references in Sedation and General Anaesthesia Standards & Guidelines in accordance with ISMP Canada’s format recommendations. Dosages remain unchanged.

RELEVANT ATTACHMENTS:

Essential Drug List for Deep Sedation Standards & Guidelines.

Essential Drug List for General Anaesthesia Standards & Guidelines

Minimal and Moderate Sedation Standards & Guidelines - Appendix C – Emergency Medications Required for Minimal Sedation

Minimal and Moderate Sedation Standards & Guidelines – Appendix D – Emergency Medications Required for Moderate Sedation

NEXT STEPS:

Update Minimal and Moderate Sedation Standards & Guidelines as well as Deep Sedation and General Anaesthetic Services Standards & Guidelines to reflect the current amendments.