



Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center

DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS POLICY AND PROCEDURE

SUBJECT: PAIN MANAGEMENT

Policy No.: P 126
Supersedes: 12/2019
Reviewed: 02/2023
Page: 1 of 2

PURPOSE

To guide the interprofessional workforce on procedures to ensure that pain identified in infant and child is effectively and safely managed.

To ensure that assessment tools utilized take into account the infant/child's developmental age.

POLICY STATEMENT

The child has the right to care that is delivered in as painless a fashion that is deemed medically safe. The first aspect of effective pain care management is the proper assessment of pain in the infant and child. It is accepted medical fact that the infant and child do experience pain and that the child may be unable to communicate effectively the severity of that pain to the caregiver.

PROCEDURE

1. Pain will be assessed upon admission, every shift and as needed.
2. Multiple scales of pain assessment have been developed. 3 tools have been adopted for use for the assessment of pain in the pediatric patient population. These scales are as follows:
 - a. **FLACC SCALE:** This scale is to be utilized in all children less than 3 years of age or in children who are unable to communicate.
 - b. **OUCHER PAIN SCALE:** The Oucher or Faces Scale is to be utilized in children over 3yo who may be unable to use numerical scales to describe severity of pain.
 - c. **VISUAL ANALOG PAIN SCALE:** The Visual Analog Pain Scale is generally acceptable for children over 6 years of age. It is to be used in children who are able to describe severity of pain by a numerical scale without the need for pictures to assist in visualization of degrees of pain.
3. Once assessment of pain is completed, it will be documented as the fifth vital sign in the electronic health record.
4. Physician assessment of pain will be done daily at the time of patient assessment of vital signs and daily status.
5. Any significant pain will be documented in the progress notes along with treatment of that pain. Follow-up documentation will detail the result of treatment.

SUBJECT: PAIN MANAGEMENT

Policy No.: P126
Supersedes: 12/2019
Page: 2 of 2

6. Pain will be discussed as part of weekly interprofessional conference as appropriate to ensure that communication through disciplines regarding the individual patient's pain and management is addressed.
7. The Pediatrics Department adheres to Rancho Administrative Policy # B816 Interdisciplinary Pain Management.

REFERENCES: Lippincott, Rancho Administrative Policy #B816 Interdisciplinary Pain Management

REVIEWED BY: Michael Bolaris Chief of Pediatrics
Melanie Sarino MD
Jennifer Bashar OT, CBIS
April Macabuhay BSN RN CBIS

APPROVED BY: Barry Jordan Chief Medical Officer

