

LOS ANGELES GENERAL MEDICAL CENTER POLICY

Subject: ORDERING OF TITRATABLE CONTINUOUS MEDICATION INTRAVENOUS INFUSIONS	Original Issue Date: 05/09/23	Policy # 965
	Supersedes:	Effective Date: 05/09/23
Policy Owner(s): Chief Nursing Officer Executive Sponsor(s): Chief Executive Officer		
Departments Consulted: Pharmacy Nursing	Reviewed & Approved by: Attending Staff Association Executive Committee Senior Executive Officer	Approved by: Chief Executive Officer Chief Executive Director

PURPOSE

To provide guidelines for the ordering of titratable intravenous medications to promote consistent administration practices among staff, ensure the patient response is achieved/sustained, and that nursing staff are not placed in a position of making dosing/administration decisions that may conflict with their scope of practice.

POLICY

This policy establishes guidelines for continuous intravenous medication infusions that may need to be frequently titrated based on patient response. This policy does not apply to continuous intravenous medications that have new orders written for each change in the infusion setting.

PROCEDURE

All continuous medication infusion orders that will allow the nurse to titrate the rate or dose must include the following in the order:

- Medication name
- Medication route
- Initial or starting rate of infusion (dose/min)
- Incremental units the rate can be increased or decreased
- Frequency for incremental doses (how often dose(rate) can be increased or decreased
- Maximum rate (dose) of infusion
- Objective clinical endpoint (RASS score, etc.). The clinical endpoint must be clear, objective, and measurable
- If multiple continuous infusions used for same indication, clear instructions for sequence in which infusions must be titrated up or down

If the order is missing any of the above parameters, the nursing or pharmacy staff shall contact the provider to correct the order.

If the clinical endpoint cannot be achieved despite the maximum rate (dose), contact the provider.

RESPONSIBILITY

- Attending Staff
- Residents
- Pharmacy Staff
- Nursing Staff

REFERENCES

Subject: ORDERING OF TITRATABLE CONTINUOUS MEDICATION INTRAVENOUS INFUSIONS	Effective Date: 05/09/23	Policy # 965

The Joint Commission (2021, October 19). Chapter: MM.04.01.01 Medication Administration-Titration Orders
<https://www.jointcommission.org/standards/standard-faqs/critical-access-hospital/medication-management-mm/000002114/>

REVISION DATES (if any)

May 9,2023.