BWH Radiology Documentation

Document Number
7.4.1ADM

Title		
Contrast Administration - Introduction		
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PRESUMES PRACTITIONERS KNOWLEDGE OF: (title)	SPECIAL NOTES
NA	**ABSOLUTE CONTRAINDICATIONS:** NA **EXPOSURE:** NA **PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT:** NA **PATIENT/FAMILY EDUCATION MATERIALS:** NA **EQUIPMENT:** NA

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 To establish a policy for the administration and quality control process for the use of Contrast Agents at BWH Radiology.

2.0 SCOPE

NA

3.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

NA

4.0 DEFINITIONS

NA

5.0 POLICY / PROCEDURE

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The Committee on Quality of Health Care in America and several other studies have highlighted the need to improve patient safety during delivery of health care. In particular, these reports have identified the need to implement standardized clinical practice guidelines leading to improved workflow processes associated with administration of medications.

5.1.2 Iodinated contrast media is the most common diagnostic pharmaceutical administered. Although the non-ionic formulations do not dissociate in water and have a lower incidence of adverse events compared to older ionic contrast media, adverse events may still occur and enhancing patient safety remains important.

5.1.3 Contrast media adverse events consist of allergy-like and non-allergy-like contrast reactions, contrast media induced nephropathy, injection related complications and co-existing conditions complications.

5.1.4 These guidelines describe preventive and management strategies for minimizing adverse events associated with the use of iodinated contrast media in computed tomography (CT).

5.1.5 Overall adverse events (ADE) can be expected in 5-12% of intravenous injections with ionic, high osmolar contrast media (HOCA), and in 0.4-3% with non-ionic, low osmolar agents (LOCA). Use of LOCA is also associated with a lower incidence of serious ADE's.

5.1.6 Based on these data the Contrast Agent Safety Committee has adopted **LOCA** for intravenous injections in the CT, Angiography and General Diagnostic (including GU) divisions.

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REVISION SHEET

DATE	REV	REVIEWED / REVISED / APPROVED	BY
6/27/2008	-	Initial Approval	Pharmacy & Therapeutics Comm.
6/15/2009		Annual Review	OSC Comm.
6/19/2009	A	Change to New Template	Duncan Phillips
7/16/2009	A	Reviewed	E. Bozadijan