

Comfort Pack Teaching Instructions

Upon admission to Merrimack Valley Hospice, most patients will receive a "Comfort Pack". This package is a sample pack of medications that are used to treat emergent symptoms for comfort. The attached list outlines which medications are included in the Comfort Pack, although medications may vary to accommodate individual needs. Long Term Pharmacy Solutions will deliver the Comfort Pack to the home once your doctor has approved its use.

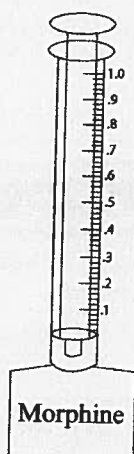
When this package has been delivered, it is not necessary to do anything with it except place it in a safe place away from children or pets. Your hospice nurse will review the contents and uses of these medications during the next visit.

If the patient experiences any unusual symptoms related to pain, nausea, anxiety or fever prior to the review of this Comfort Pack, the on-call hospice nurse can assist you in its use over the telephone.

Please call the on-call nurse at 1-800-475-8335 for assistance.

Morphine Sulfate (Roxanol)

Morphine (Roxanol) is used for pain, labored breathing, shortness of breath or "air hunger". After drawing it up in the syringe, administer medicine by placing under the tongue or in pocket of the cheek. The dose is _____ every two hours as needed for pain or respiratory distress.



Concentration: 20 milligrams per milliliter (20 mg/ml)

0.25 ml = 5 mg

0.5 ml = 10 mg

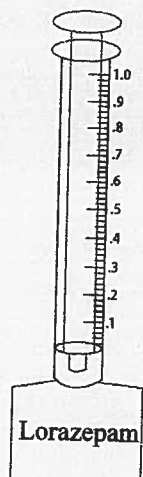
0.75 ml = 15 mg

1.0 ml = 20 mg

Start here

Lorazepam (Ativan)

Lorazepam (Ativan) is used for anxiety, agitation and helps promote sleep. It also helps lessen nausea and relieves seizure activity as well. Administer under the tongue or in the pocket of cheek. The dose is _____ every six hours as needed for anxiety or agitation.



Concentration: 2 milligrams per milliliter (2 mg/ml)

0.125 ml = 0.25 mg

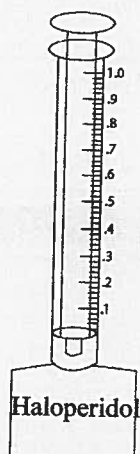
0.25 ml = 0.5 mg

0.5 ml = 1.0 mg

Start here

Haloperidol (Haldol)

Haloperidol (Haldol) is used for relief of severe agitation, anxiety, and is also used to treat nausea or vomiting. Administer under the tongue or in the pocket of the cheek. The dose is _____ every six hours as needed for anxiety, agitation or nausea.



Concentration: 2 milligrams per milliliter (2 mg/ml)

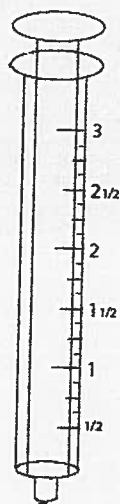
0.25 ml = 0.5 mg

0.5 ml = 1.0 mg

Start here

Haloperidol (Haldol) Gel

Haloperidol (Haldol) Gel is used topically for the relief of severe agitation, anxiety, and nausea or vomiting. Use glove when applying. Rub prescribed amount on inside of the wrist and use same area to build up a reservoir. Apply dose of _____ every six hours as needed for nausea, vomiting or agitation.



Concentration: 1 milligram per milliliter (1 mg/ml)

0.5 ml = 0.5 mg

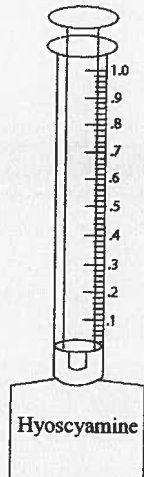
1 ml = 1 mg

Start here

Pre-filled Syringe of Haldol Gel

Hyoscyamine (Levsin)

Hyoscyamine (Levsin) is used for the relief of upper airway congestion and excessive secretions. Place the medicine under the tongue in the pocket of the cheek. The dose is _____ every four hours as needed for respiratory congestion.



Concentration: 0.25 milligrams per milliliter (0.25 mg/ml)

0.5 ml = 0.125 mg

Start here

Acetaminophen (Tylenol) Suppository

Acetaminophen (Tylenol) Suppository is used to relieve fever. Each suppository has 650 mg of Tylenol. One suppository may be given every four hours as needed for fever.

*If medicine doesn't seem to be helping,
please call the Hospice Nurse for further instructions.*

1-800-475-8335