

Translating Research Into Practice (TRIP)

Nausea Management Scale

What does the evidence say?

- The CTCAE was developed by the National Cancer Institute and is the official instrument for tracking toxicity symptoms in NCI clinical trials. (Basch et al, 2007)
- Nausea and vomiting are distressing symptoms which can adversely affect patients' quality of life, make performing ADLs difficult, and cause serious medical complications. (Hawkins & Grunberg, 2009)
- Our present nausea and vomiting assessment tool is not utilized consistently by nurses throughout UCH. Reasons stated include nurse misunderstandings regarding use and meaning.

Change in practice?

- Determine if nausea is a problem for your patient
- If so, add the Nausea Management NIC to the Care Plan
- Assess patient using the CTCAE Nausea and Vomiting Scale within the Nausea Mgt NIC at least once a shift or more often as needed
- Treat nausea and vomiting with pharmacological or non-pharmacological interventions.
- Reassessment encouraged within one hour after each intervention
- Document patient and family education

CTCAE Nausea and Vomiting Scale

Nausea Assessment

0= None

1= Able to eat

2= Oral intake decreased

3= No oral intake, requires IV fluids, tube feeds, parental nutrition.

Vomiting Assessment

0= None

1= 0-1 episodes/12 hrs

2= 1-3 episodes/12 hrs

3= >3 episodes/12 hrs

4= Requires parental nutrition



References:

- Hawkins,R. & Grunberg,S. (2009). Chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting: Challenges and opportunities for improved patient outcomes. *Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing* ,13(1), 54-64.
- Eaton,L. & Tipton, J.(2009) Putting Evidence into Practice: Improving Oncology Patient Outcomes. Pittsburg, PA: Oncology Nursing Society.
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- Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events, Version 3.0: National Cancer Institute. Retrieved August 10, 2009 from: http://ctep.cancer.gov/protocolDevelopment/electronic_applications/docs/ctcae3.pdf

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