NEONATAL MEDICATION PROTOCOLS

FLECAINIDE
Created by: NCCU
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NCCU Clinical Guidelines
KEMH/PMH
Perth, Western Australia

DRUG:	**FLECAINIDE**
PRESENTATION:	Ampoule: 10mg/mL (15mL in each ampoule) Oral Solution: 5mg/mL (SAS authority required)
ACTION & INDICATION	Membrane stabilizing antiarrhythmic agent Used for the suppression and prevention of ventricular arrhythmias and supraventricular tachycardia.
DOSE:	IV: 0.5mg/kg/dose 12 hourly (maximum dose 2mg/kg) ORAL: Initially 2mg/kg/dose twice daily. Dose may be titrated at intervals of 4 days to a maximum of 6mg/kg/day
ADMINISTRATION:	Intravenous infusion: over 30 minutes Diluent: 5% glucose Oral: Milk may reduce absorption. Separate doses from feeds
ADVERSE EFFECTS & COMMENTS:	Monitor cardiac function - proarrhythmic effects can occur. Heart failure – may worsen or cause CCF. Reduce dose in impaired renal or liver function. Palpitations, diarrhoea, rash, tremor, dyspnoea Monitor electrolytes. Monitor urine pH - rate of excretion increases with drop in urine pH. Do not refrigerate oral mixture. May crystallise.
MONITORING DRUG LEVELS:	Sampling time: Just before next dose. Therapeutic range: 200 – 1000 microgram/L Time to reach steady state: 5 - 7 days
REFERENCES:	Paediatric Pharmacopoeia 13th Ed Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne Neofax 2012
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