



Postoperative - CICU

CICU team receives patient hand-off from CVOR

Abbreviations (laboratory & radiology excluded):

CICU = Cardiac Intensive Care Unit
CVOR = Cardiovascular Operating Room
HTN = Hypertension
QTc = Corrected for heart rate

Pre Extubation

Pain Control/Sedation

- Dexmedetomidine: 0.5 mcg/kg/hr
- Acetaminophen 15 mg/kg/dose IV q6hr for 4 doses
- Fentanyl 1 mcg/kg/dose q1hr as needed for severe pain
- If appropriate (>6mo, no anticoagulation) ketorolac 0.5 mg/kg/dose IV q6hr once chest tube output stable, 3-6 hrs after arrival from CVOR
- Acute Pain Service to manage if ESP catheters in place

Management of Mechanical Ventilation

- Wean mechanical ventilation as tolerated
- Extubate when clinically able

Imaging and Testing

- Chest x-ray
- EKG

Hemodynamic Management

- Treatment of HTN per BP guidelines as discussed with surgeon

Labs

- Arterial/Venous Blood gas, Lactic acid, Ionized Calcium q6hr
- BMP q12hr
- CBC q24hr
- Coagulation studies as clinically indicated

Temperature Management

- Avoid hyperthermia

Post Extubation

Medications For Pain Control

- Oxycodone 0.05-0.1 mg/kg/dose q4hr as needed for moderate-severe pain once tolerating PO intake
- Morphine IV 0.05-0.1 mg/kg/dose q2hr as needed for breakthrough pain

Nausea and Vomiting Prevention

- If QTc appropriate - Ondansetron 0.1 mg/kg/dose IV q4-6 hours as needed (4mg IV for larger patients)
- If QTc prolonged (> 480 ms) - Ativan 0.05 mg/kg/dose IV q4-6 hr as needed
- Discontinue famotidine once PO intake tolerated if not a home medication

Respiratory Support

- Incentive Spirometry with nurse q2 hr while awake or developmentally appropriate exercises

Imaging and Testing

- Chest x-ray as clinically indicated

Labs

- Thoracotomy pt**
Post extubation - arterial blood gas as clinically indicated
- Bypass pt**
Start at q6 hr then can space out (q12 - q24 hr) arterial/venous blood gas, lactic acid, ionized calcium

Diet

- Advance diet as tolerated

Overnight POD 0-1

Medications

- Furosemide 1 mg/kg/dose IV q 8-12 hrs
- Bypass pt**
Acetaminophen 10-15 mg/kg/dose q4-6 hrs as needed

Management of Lines, Drains

- Removal of Foley catheter with first dose of Furosemide
- Removal of central venous and arterial lines by 0700

Imaging

- Chest x-ray every morning while chest tubes in place

Labs

- Discontinue Blood Gases/Lactic Acid/Ionized Calcium

Patient ready to transfer to inpatient

Algorithms:

- [Prior to Surgery](#)
- [Intraop - Bypass](#)
- [Intraop - Thoracotomy](#)
- [Inpatient](#)