

overdosing. If the child cannot press the button during the procedure, parents can assist. Monitoring devices are used to closely observe the child, ensuring medication safety.

6. Usage and Duration :

This is for acute postoperative pain management.

(1) Intravenous PCA: Each medication bag lasts three days, and each treatment cycle can only be used for six days.

7. Costs

PCA is not covered by national health insurance and requires self-payment.

(1) Intravenous Patient-Controlled Analgesia (IV PCA):

- ♦ First treatment cycle (within 24 hours): NT\$6,000 (including technical fees, SpO2 monitoring, materials, and medication).
- ♦ Beyond 24 hours: NT\$1,000 per additional day until discontinuation.

(2) Epidural Patient-Controlled Analgesia (Epidural PCA):

- ♦ First treatment cycle (within 24 hours): NT\$6,000 (including technical fees, SpO2 monitoring, materials, and medication).
- ♦ Beyond 24 hours: NT\$1,000 per additional day until discontinuation.

Self-Assessment

- () 1. After PCA is set up, the patient does not need to press the PCA button for medication to enter the body.
- () 2. After PCA is set up, if the patient feels unwell, they must immediately notify medical staff.

Please write down your question:

References:

Miller's Anesthesia, Ninth Edition, 81, 2614–2638, e5, *Acute Postoperative Pain*.

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PCA for Children Instructions



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1. What is Patient-Controlled Analgesia (PCA)?

The *PCA device* is connected to the child's body to administer medication. When the child feels pain or anticipates pain (e.g., turning over, getting out of bed, dressing changes), they press the blue button five minutes prior. If the button is not pressed, no medication is delivered.

2. Advantages of PCA for Children

- (1) Reduces the duration of pain.
- (2) Medication dosage is adjusted based on the child's needs.
- (3) Provides stable pain relief.
- (4) Effective pain control allows the child to get out of bed earlier, promoting wound recovery.



3. Operating Instructions:



4. Precautions:

- (1) should be used when the patient is conscious and experiencing pain. Family members are prohibited from pressing the button due to patient agitation.
- (2) About 15–20% of patients may experience dizziness, nausea, vomiting, or itchy skin, usually occurring in the first few days post-surgery. Symptoms can be alleviated by adjusting the dosage or using antiemetics.
- (3) A few patients may experience **drowsiness or slowed breathing (less than 8 breaths per minute)**. **Notify the ward nurse immediately if this occurs.**
- (4) PCA does not affect wound healing and has minimal impact on intestinal peristalsis, so it can be used with confidence.
- (5) Anesthesiologists and nurses will visit the ward daily to monitor and adjust usage. Please **feel free** to raise any concerns with the medical team.

5. Safety Features

The anesthesiologist evaluates whether the child, over four years old and able to communicate, is suitable for PCA based on their weight, type of surgery, and physical condition. The device sets a safety interval for medication administration. Pressing the blue button repeatedly within this interval will not deliver additional medication, preventing