

Intracranial Injury Pre-transfer Checklist

Checks

- ETT secured, correct length
- C-spine immobilisation, collar loosened
- CXR to confirm ETT position
- 30 degree head up *tilt*

A

- Adequate minute ventilation
- ETCO2 monitoring
- ABG on transfer ventilator
- Note ETCO2 - PaCO2 gradient to give ETCO2 target during transfer

B

- 2x IV access
- Arterial line (should not delay CT Scan)
- Adequate fluid resuscitation
- Peripheral vasopressor infusion
- Correct coagulopathy

C

- Document presenting & pre-intubation neuro exam (pupils, GCS & all 4 limbs)
- Adequate sedation & analgesia
- Adequate muscle relaxant
- Nerve stimulator monitoring
- Check blood glucose

D

- Other life threatening injuries managed
- Maintain normothermia
- Urinary catheter
- FBC, U&E & Coagulation screen sent
- 5 point harness secured
- Pressure area protection

E

Targets

- Exclude endo-bronchial intubation

- Exclude pneumothorax
- PaO2 >13 kPa SpO2 >97%
- PaCO2 4.5-5 kPa
- PEEP 5 cmH2O

- MAP > 90mmHg
- Use 0.9% saline or blood products
- Reverse warfarin with Octaplex & Vitamin K 10mg IV
- Seek haematology advice for novel anticoagulants

- Propofol 2-4 mg/kg/hr
- Fentanyl 50-200 mcg/hr
- Maintain < 1 twitch on train of four
- Blood glucose 6-10 mmol/l
- Consider Phenytoin 1g IV over 1 hour, only if seizure

- ICU Transfer trolley cannot *tilt* head up
- Assume spinal injury is present in all trauma patients. Lie flat on trolley.
- Do not transfer on scoop / spinal board
- Non-trauma patients – can be sat up

Equipment & Drugs

- Blue 'AB' & Red 'CD' transfer bags
- Ventilator secured
- Portable suction
- Sufficient drugs for transfer:
 - Oxygen
 - Sedation
 - Muscle relaxant
 - Vasopressor
 - 20% Mannitol (1-2 g/kg = 5-10 ml/kg) and/or
 - 5% saline (50-100ml titrated to response)

Handover

- Copy of clinical notes & family contact details
- Scans/X-rays on Exopacs
- Contact destination when leaving & 10mins before arrival
- Wessex Transfer Audit form complete

Contacts

- Dial 999 - request 'Emergency Critical Care transfer'
- UHS ED - 023 8120 4994
- UHS Neuro-Surgery SpR – Bleep 2877
- UHS Neuro ICU - 023 8120 6401
- Neuro ICU Guidelines: www.neuroicu.org.uk
- UHS PICU - 023 8077 5502 www.sort.nhs.uk