

VC EMS TRAINING BULLETIN

Bulletin 18
Date: August 16, 2012

IMPROVING QUALITY...CONTINUOUSLY



*Ventura County
Emergency Medical Services Agency*

PEDIATRIC MEDICATION

The Knowledge Assessment from Skills Refresher is used for the purpose of Continuous Quality Improvement. It has helped to identify key areas on which to focus efforts for EMS education. In the spring of 2012, we were happy to see an average of 82% of questions answered correctly!

Three questions on the Knowledge Assessment that specifically addressed administration of medications to pediatric patients were answered incorrectly by at least 25% of the candidates.

Please review the following information regarding pediatric medications.

EPINEPHRINE FOR SYMPTOMATIC BRADYCARDIA: The correct dose for pediatric patients experiencing symptomatic bradycardia is: epinephrine 1:10,000 0.01 mg/kg (0.1 mL/kg) IV/IO q 3-5 minutes.

MORPHINE TO TREAT PAIN: In pediatric patients, morphine is given for burns and isolated extremity injuries only. The correct dose is: morphine 0.1 mg/kg IV over 1-2 minutes, may repeat X1 after 3 minutes, max 0.2 mg/kg or 10mg. IM dose is 0.2 mg/kg, max 10mg.

ATROPINE FOR NERVE AGENT EXPOSURE: If a pediatric patient is exhibiting obvious signs of SLUDGE, IV/IO access should be obtained after complete decontamination in the cold zone and atropine 0.05 mg/kg IM should be given every 5 minutes until symptoms are relieved.

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