

RETU Alcohol or Sedative Intoxication Pathway

Required testing prior to RETU admission

- Serum EtOH level
- Electrolytes (i.e. magnesium)
- Blood glucose level
- Pregnancy test in women of childbearing age
- Assessment of co-ingestion

ED

Evaluation

Not appropriate for RETU

- Delirium
- Severe alcohol or sedative withdrawal as indicated by **1 or more** of the following:
 - Persistent HR >120bpm despite treatment
 - Severe vomiting despite treatment
 - Grossly visible tremor despite treatment
 - Profuse perspiration despite treatment
 - Persistent temperature >101F despite treatment
 - Other marked physical signs of alcohol or sedative withdrawal not responding to treatment

RETU Intake Evaluation

(do not repeat testing if already done in ED)

Exam Focus

- Neuro/Mental status
- Cardiac
- GI

Initial Testing

- Labs: CBC, BMP, LFTs, Mg, EtOH level, urine tox (as indicated)
- CIWA-Ar score
- EKG
- Imaging: CTH (as indicated)

Monitoring

- Continuous telemetry (as indicated)
- Continuous oximetry (as indicated)
- Monitor for signs of withdrawal
- Monitor mental status

Consults

(as indicated)

- Social work consult
- Psychiatry consult

RETU Treatment / Evaluation

Treatment

- IV fluids: Isolyte or D5 1/2NS
- Deploy CIWA Orderset
- Electrolyte repletion
 - Magnesium IVPB
 - Potassium chloride IV/PO
- Thiamine 100mg IV/PO
- Folic acid 1mg PO

Clinical improvement?

Y

N

Patient desires detox?*

Y

N

Social work consult

- Provide detox info sheet (Epic documents)
- Consider librium taper

- Investigate other causes of prolonged intoxication
- Admit

*Engage SW early for those interested in detox, patients may go to detox with mild withdrawal symptoms

Discharge from RETU

- Withdrawal symptoms absent or manageable
- Metabolic abnormalities (electrolyte abnormality, dehydration) absent
- No functional status impairment
- Psych stable (no hallucinations, SI or HI)

Disposition Guidelines

Admission to Hospital

- Deterioration of condition
- Evidence of lethal co-ingestant
- Severe withdrawal despite treatment
- Unstable vitals