

DIGOXIN DOSE ALERT

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DIGOXIN DOSE ALERT

Patient _____ has received on order for digoxin _____, which exceeds the maximum recommended dose of 0.125mg per day for elderly patients except when treating atrial arrhythmias (atrial fibrillation, atrial flutter, supraventricular tachycardia). Decreased renal clearance of digoxin may lead to toxic effects, such as slow heart rate and visual disturbances.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Determine if patient has a diagnosis of atrial fibrillation or other atrial arrhythmia.
2. Make sure patient has an order to obtain a pulse before administration and to hold digoxin if heart rate falls below the specified rate, per policy.
3. Monitor patient for signs of toxic/adverse effects: CNS side effects, including weakness, lethargy, disorientation, agitation, and nervousness; slow heartbeat; visual disturbances, including blurred vision, yellow or green tinting, flickering lights or halos; GI symptoms, including abdominal discomfort, loss of appetite, nausea and vomiting.

Notify physician immediately if any above symptoms occur.

If you have any questions, please contact your Consultant Pharmacist.

PLEASE PUNCH HOLES IN CARD AND PLACE IN FRONT OF RESIDENT'S MAR