Introduction

This pathway was developed by an interdisciplinary clinical team from SickKids using research knowledge, clinical experience, and consensus agreement. This is a general guideline and does not represent a professional care standard governing providers’ obligations to patients.

Target Audience:

- **Inclusion**: Children aged 2-18 years old with no underlying disease or comorbidity who have been required to have a laparoscopic splenectomy by the General Surgery Team.

- **Exclusion**:
  - Patients are to be removed from this pathway if there are significant underlying disease, significant postoperative complications (e.g. bowel obstruction or prolonged TPN) or a change in diagnosis; and
  - If a patient has Sickle Cell Disease please consult hematology for guidance on fluids, oxygen, and pain management. These patients are pre-admitted the day before surgery*

  Care should be revised to meet individual patient needs.

Target Users:

- Surgeons, Nurse Practitioners, residents, fellow, and nurses on ward.
## Laparoscopic Splenectomy Care Pathway

### Expected Date of Discharge:

**PRE-OPERATIVE**

1. Hydration maintained
2. Adequate pain control
3. Child/parent are ready for post-op care
4. Child/parent are oriented to pre-op bath. Wipes to be used upon arrival. Refer to procedure document

**IMMEDIATELY POST-OPERATIVELY**

1. Alkalotic
2. Adequate pain control
3. Antiseptic as tolerated
4. Able to tolerate oral clear liquids immediately post-op
5. Infection intact, no drainage, dry and intact

**POST-OP DAY #1**

1. Alkalotic
2. Adequate pain control
3. Ambulating
4. Able to tolerate oral diet
5. Infection dry & intact

**DISCHARGE**

1. Alkalotic
2. Adequate pain control
3. Ambulating
4. Able to tolerate oral diet
5. Infection dry & intact
6. Child/parent teaching completed
7. Family understands discharge teaching

### Guide

- Obtain history
- Complete physical exam
- Assess vital signs
- Complete pain assessment (refer to Pain Assessment Guidelines)
- Obtain accurate in and out

### Infusion

- Ensure that patient is NPO
- Administer 0.9% NaCl with 20mmol KCL/L at maintenance
- Refill as indicated
- Refer to Fluid and Electrolyte Guidelines

### Activity & Education

- Activity: as tolerated
- Consent for surgery
- Review pre-op procedures for child and caregiver
- Educate family about post-splenectomy risks
- Review need for mobility
- Review need for parental involvement in care

### Implementation Plan

**Guideline Group and Reviewers**

**Guideline Group Membership**

1. Monping Chiang RN (EC), MS, FNP General Surgery
2. Fatma A. Rajwani PT, Quality Analyst, Quality Management Department

**Internal Reviewers**

1. Annie Fecteau, MD Chief of General and Thoracic Surgery

**External Reviewer**

1. Sharifa Himidan MD North York General Hospital

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• Education and awareness building by General Surgery Program (Surgeons, NPs, fellows, nurse educator) at: fellow orientation (once per year) nursing orientation (every 3 months), and residents orientation (every month).

• Surgeons to communicate any updates in practice to Division of General Surgery.

References


Attachments:

Lap_spleen_final_2019.pdf