Behavioral Agitation / Sedation Guide

Behavioral Activity Rating Scale (BARS)

Behavioral Activity Rating Scale
BARS scoring: 1 - 4

YES → No sedation required → Exit to Age Appropriate Protocol(s)

NO ↓

Behavioral Activity Rating Scale
BARS scoring: 5
Agitated but not disruptive
Able to calm and redirect

YES →

Verbal De-escalation Procedure ASP 11

P

PO / ODT Medication

Examples:
Haloperidol
Droperidol
Lorazepam

Condition Improving?
NO →
YES → Exit to Age Appropriate Protocol(s)

NO ↓

Behavioral Activity Rating Scale
BARS scoring: 6

Agitated and disruptive
Not violent

Verbal De-escalation Procedure ASP 11

IV / IO Protocol UP 6
if indicated

P

Offer PO/ODT Medication for BARS 5
Or
Age ≥ 12
Haloperidol 2 - 5 mg
IM
Age ≥ 65
2.5 mg IM
May repeat every 5 as needed
Maximum 10 mg
And/Or
Midazolam 2.5 mg IV / IO / IN
5 mg IM
Age ≥ 65
1 – 2.5 mg IV / IO / IN
2.5 mg IM
Peds: 0.1 – 0.2 mg/kg
IV / IO / IM / IN
Repeat every 2-3 minutes as needed

Consider
Restraint Physical Procedure USP 5
Monitor per restraint procedure
if indicated

Condition Improving?
NO →
YES → Exit to Age Appropriate Protocol(s)

NO ↓

Behavioral Activity Rating Scale
BARS scoring: 7

Agitated and violent

→ Exit to Agitated Delirium / Violent Protocol UP 19

Universal Protocol Section