# UCSF Radiology Safety: IV Contrast & Pregnancy Screening Update

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### **Evolution of Modern RCM**

Molecular structure	Era	Examples	Comment
COO-Na+/Meg+	1950s	lonic monomer Diatrizoate Iothalamate	Hyperosmolar, 5–8× blood
CH <sub>3</sub> CONH T R		(Conray, Renografin, Hypaque)	Ratio 1.5
R R R	1980s	Non-ionic monomer lopamidol lohexol loversol lopromide ovue, Omnipaque, Optiray, Ultravist	Lower osmolality, ~2× blood, Ratio 3.0
R COO-Na+/Me	eg⁺ 1980s	lonic dimer loxaglate (Hexabrix)	Osmolality ~2× blood Ratio 3.0
R R R R	1990s-		Osmolality = blood, ncreased viscosity  Ratio 6.0

### Adverse Reactions-LOCM

Mild reactions - 1/100 - 1/500 Moderate reactions - 1/5,000 Severe reactions - 1/10,000

Death - 1/170,000 (or less)

### Adverse Reactions

Not an allergy, many are "allergic-like".

Others are "physiologic".

Not reliably predictable.

Prepare for them.

### Be Prepared: UCSF Guidelines and Fact

- A supervising physician must be physically present in the facility or office and available to furnish assistance and direction throughout the performance of the procedure. It does not mean that the physician must be present in the room where the procedure is performed."
- Virtually all life-threatening reactions occur immediately or within 20 minutes after contrast injection.

### Risk of Allergic-Type Reaction

History of any allergy (hay fever, drug or food allergies) = Increased risk is <u>insignificant</u>

Asthma = Insignificant

Previous minor reaction to contrast = Insignificant

Previous severe "allergic-type reaction to contrast = up 35%

What should I do if I need to give RCM or Gd to someone who has had a previous adverse reaction?

### History of minor reaction only:

- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Itching
- Headache

No pretreatment needed

### No pretreatment necessary

- Seafood allergy
- lodine allergy
- Previous reaction to Gadolinium agent for RCM or RCM for Gd

## History of limited urticaria: No pretreatment or

Antihistamine only

If antihistamine, preferably give second generation "non-drowsy" antihistamine only (Centirizine (Zyrtec) 10 mg PO 1 hr. before)

### Pretreating Patients Who Had Mild Allergic-Type Reaction in the Past?

- Very low risk, <1%, of more severe reaction</li>
- Efficacy of pretreatment for prevention unproven

### Pretreatment for Patients with History of Only Hives after RCM\*

- 133 pts w/ hives only, subsequent RCM studies
- No severe reactions with most severe being hives
  - No pretreatment: 7.6% (5/66) had repeat reactions
  - Benadryl only: 8% (2/25) had repeat reactions
  - Steroids only: 46% (12/26) had repeat reactions
  - Steroids + benadryl: 44% (7/16) had repeat reactions

<sup>\*</sup>Premedication of patients for prior urticarial reaction to iodinated contrast medium. Kolbe AB, et al. Abdom Imaging 2014.

### History of Moderate or Severe Allergic-Type Reaction:

- Diffuse erythema/diffuse hives
- Respiratory compromise
- Cardiovascular compromise
- Facial or laryngeal edema

Give full pretreatment, delay RCM or Gd, perform in facility with rapid access to higher level of care

### Pretreatment Regimen

Methylprednisolone - 32 mg orally 12 and 2 hours before RCM

And

Antihistamine

Preferably Cetirizine (Zyrtec) 10mg 1 hour before RCM.

Alternative IV or PO diphenhydramine 50 mg

#### APeX Order/ Smartset

✓ Inpatient IV Contrast Allergy Premedications Manage My Version
 ✓ Oral premedication regime in patients considered at high risk for adverse contrast reactions

50 mg prednisone OR 32 mg methylprednisolone (Medrol)

AND

12 hours before

#### 2 hours before

50 mg prednisone OR 32 mg methylprednisolone (Medrol)
50 mg Diphenhydramine (Benadryl) (Also used alone as premedication for patients with a history of limited hives only)

Pre-Medications

For Mild reaction (e.g. nausea, itching) (not hives), no premedication recommended.

\*\*Mild reaction - Hives Only

diphenhydrAMINE (BENADRYL) capsule
50 mg, Oral, Once, Give 2 hours prior to CT scan. RN to retime dose relative to contrast administration time

\*\*Moderate and Severe Reactions - Respiratory or Cardiovascular Symptoms

PredniSONE AND Diphenhydramine

Methylprednisolone AND Diphenhydramine

### Accelerated Steroid Prophylaxis

- 200 mg hydrocortisone IV @ 5 and 1 hour before CM
- 50 mg Diphenhydramine IV 1 hour before CM

- Breakthrough reaction rate non-inferior to standard 12/13 hour preparation
  - Mervak BM, et al. Radiology 2017

### Do Steroids Work?: Repeat Anaphylactoid Reactions

**Ionic Agents** 

No Premedication 17%-44%

Premedication 9.1%

**Nonionics** 

No Premedication 5.5%

Premedication 0.5%

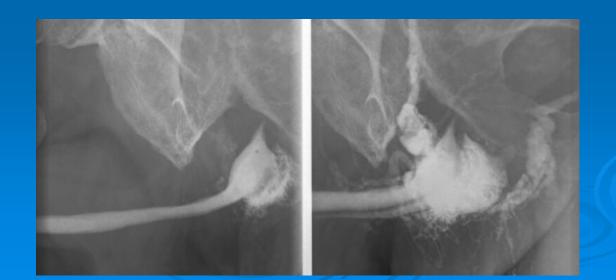
\*No life-threatening reactions in any group

### Steroid Prophylaxis: Does This Work?

- It is "standard of care" currently
- Unproven to reduce major reaction rates
- Example for inpatients:
  - Increased LOS by 25 hours
  - Increased hospital acquired infections due to LOS
  - Potential \$159,131 to prevent 1 major reaction
  - \$131,211,400 to prevent one fatal reaction

### What if High Risk Patient is to get RCM, but not Intravascular?

- E.g. cystogram, urethrogram, HSG, UGI
- There is some risk of intravascular exposure → Full pretreatment, and low-osmolar contrast recommended!
- Enteric barium, Gd are safe



### How can I minimize the risk of Contrast associated ARI?

### Factors likely increasing risk of ARI

- Renal severe insufficiency
- Previous contrast associated ARI

### Contrast Associated Acute Renal Injury (ARI)

 Patients with eGFR ≥ 30 are at extremely low risk for development of ARI.

### Identify patients at risk

### UCSF guidelines

- eGFR < 6 weeks old required if any of these:
  - Inpatient
  - Age ≥ 60
  - History of kidney "disease"
  - DM requiring treatment
  - Hypertension requiring medication

### UCSF guidelines

- eGFR  $\geq$  30, give RCM
  - No precautions or preparation unless acute renal injury now

- < 30 and not on dialysis, give RCM cautiously, with need documented (consider CT w/o contrast, US, MRI)
  - Outpatients: IV hydration (500 ml IV NS 1 hour before and oral hydration after)
  - 0 % 10% risk of "Acute Renal Injury"

### ARI – Prevention for eGFR< 30

- 1. Identify the patient at risk.
- 2. Consider alternative imaging.
- 3. Hydration IV NS or LR hydration have reasonably evidence-based benefit
- 4. LOCM is better than HOCM.
- Is iso-osmolar CM safer than LOCM? Probably not.
- 6. N-acetylcysteine, Bicarb? Unproven benefit.

### Other concerns

- Safe dosing
- Dialysis patients
- Metformin
- Pregnant patients

#### How much RCM can I authorize?

- No clear dose-toxicity relationship
- No defined threshold or limit
- Decision to give closely spaced IV contrast injections should be clinically driven and individualized.
  - More caution with higher risk patients

### Can I authorize RCM for patients on dialysis?

- Concerns:
  - Volume overload
  - Residual renal function

### Contrast Media in Dialysis Patients

- RCM volume trivial
- Dialysis schedule not important

#### Can Use RCM if:

- Dialysis/No Urine
- No expectation of renal recovery, i.e. chronic renal failure

#### Take care with RCM if:

Acute renal failure patients or

Chronic dialysis and still produce urine

### Metformin Precautions (These have changed recently)

- Patients on metformin have no increased risk of ARI
- No reports of lactic acidosis from RCM in patients with eGFR <u>></u>30

#### UCSF Metformin/RCM Guidelines

- eGFR ≥ 30
  - No need to d/c metformin-just give IV RCM
  - No need to routinely test renal function afterwards
- eGFR < 30 or IA injection of RCM</li>
  - Probably should not be taking metformin
  - Hold metformin for 48 hours
  - Confirm renal function before re-starting

### Treatment of Contrast Media Reactions

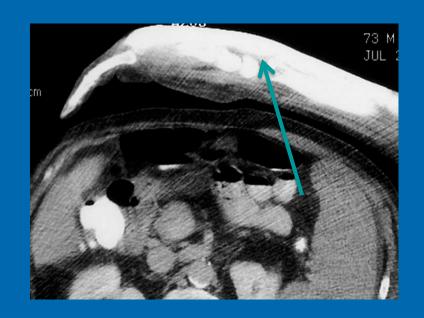


#### Mild Reactions

- Observe ~30 minutes
- May herald severe reaction

#### Effects of Cutaneous Contrast Media Extravasation

- Edema
- Hemorrhage
- Necrosis
- Compartment syndrome
- Maximum tissue damage at 48 hours
  - Not possible to assess maximum injury initially



#### Treatment

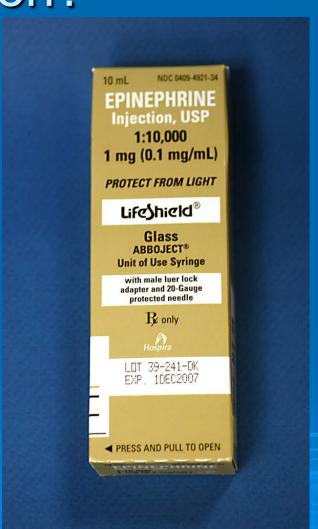
- Evaluate patient for 1 -2 hours
- Elevate limb
- lce packs for 20 min. t.i.d.
- Give D/C instructions and phone number for Radiology nurse

#### Send To ED If

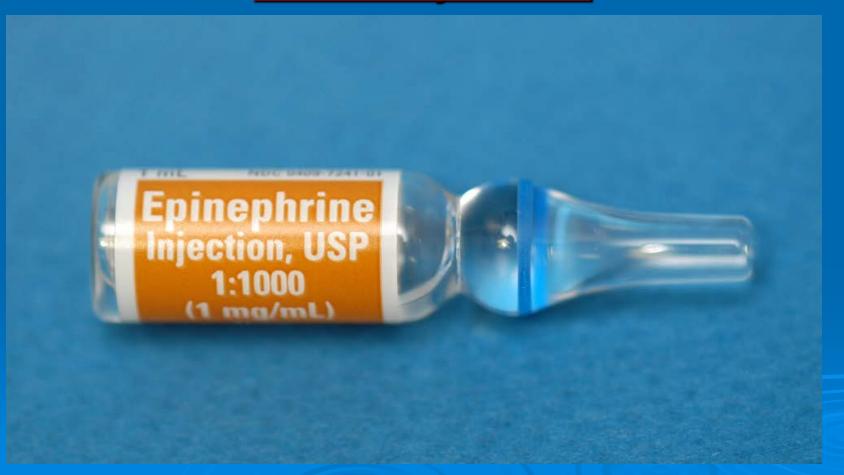
- Decreased perfusion
- Hypoaesthesia
- Increasing pain
- Decreased neuromuscular function
- Skin blistering, ulceration

## Epinephrine: When Needed, Which Concentration?





## Epi 1:1000 IM Only, and good BP needed for absorption. Not safe for IV injection



## 1:1000 Epinephrine @ UCSF

- Switched to only single use Epi-pens
  - To avoid IV injection of concentrated epinephrine
  - IM injection only, 0.3 mg dose
  - Requires training to avoid self injection



## Epi 1:10,000 IV Injection Only

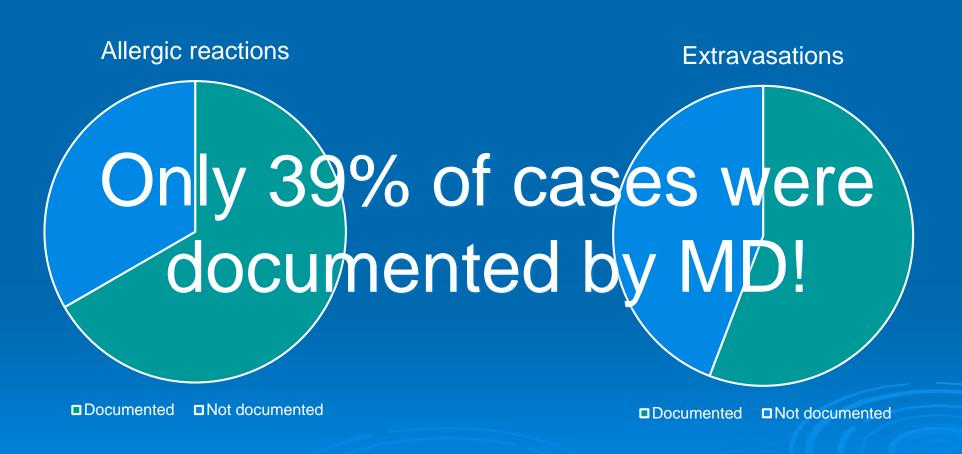


## Resident Quality Improvement Project

**GME Incentive Project 2017-18** 

Molly Chapman

#### 1.1.16-3.22.17: 60% of ACEs documented



## Step 1: Dictate "Macro ACE"

#### Step 2: Read, then delete instructions

#### \*\*\*Instructions: DELETE AFTER READING:

- Include this macro in your Technique section, with a summary line as an impression point.
- Please consider copy/pasting the following into a Significant Event progress note in Apex.
- Remember to add allergy to contrast if applicable in Apex\*\*\*

The patient experienced an adverse event related to the administration of intravenous contrast:

[This is the adverse contrast event common template. Please pick type of event from the left-hand column.]

# Iodinated Contrast Material Recommendation Update

- Forget iodine, Gd and seafood allergies: No extra risk
- Limited hives only-no pretreatment needed
- Moderate/Severe Allergic-type reactions: Steroid preparation required, may use accelerated prep
- eGFR ≥30, and no acute ARI: No prep, or delay required
- RCM safe if on dialysis and no renal function
- Metformin: eGFR ≥30, no need to hold metformin
- Epi-pens for high concentration epinephrine

#### New UCSF Guidelines for Gd

 $eGFR \ge 30$ 

eGFR < 30

Group II
GBCA
(Gadavist®)

Single dose appropriate

Confirm necessity of GBCA

Group III
GBCA
(Eovist®)

Single dose appropriate

Informed consent needed

#### Major Change for Gadolinium Use

- For macrocyclic agents: Gd can be given regardless of renal function
- If on dialysis, urgent dialysis is recommended after Gd

#### Pregnancy Issues

- MRI safe for fetus
  - Avoid Gd unless absolutely essential

- lodinated contrast safe during pregnancy
- Breast feeding safe after either Gd or RCM without special precautions

# Pregnancy Screening and Ionizing Radiation

- UCSF Guidelines being revised
- Technologist screens patients verbally and with written form
- When in doubt, get pregnancy test for higher dose exams,
   POS test adequate
- If pregnant, avoid exams with pelvic higher doses, when possible, e.g. A/P CT, KUB, GI fluoroscopy, IR

## **THANKS!**