

1. Measure VS and COWS QID and PRN, record results on flow sheet.
2. Clonidine test dose 0.1 mg PO now.  
Check orthostatic VS 45 min after dose.  
If orthostatic SBP does not drop greater than 10 mmHg, give:  
Clonidine 0.2mg PO TID  
If orthostatic BP drops greater than 10 mmHg, give:  
Clonidine 0.1mg PO TID.
3. Give additional clonidine 0.1 – 0.2 mg PO Q4hr PRN opioid withdrawal.  
Total clonidine NTE 1.2mg in first 24 hrs; 2.0mg/24hrs thereafter.  
Hold clonidine for BP < 90/50, P < 50, excessive sedation, orthostatic dizziness.
4. Offer PRN medication based on elevated COWS symptom category:
  1. Loperamide 4mg PO after first loose stool, then 2 mg PO each additional loose stool, NTE 16mg/24 hrs.
  2. Dicyclomine HCl 20mg PO Q6hr PRN stomach cramps.
  3. Prochlorperazine 10mg PO or 25mg suppository Q6hr PRN nausea or vomiting.
  4. Hydroxyzine 25-50 mg PO Q6hr PRN anxiety, restlessness, runny nose, tearing, itching, insomnia.
  5. Ibuprofen 600 - 800mg PO Q6 - 8hr PRN bone or joint aches, NTE 2400mg/24hr.
  6. Methocarbamol 750mg PO Q6-8hrs PRN muscle cramps.
  7. Diazepam 5mg 6hrs PRN irritability/agitation x 96hrs then D/C. Hold for excessive sedation.
5. Place on detox status.