

Reducing overuse of telemetry

Educate staff

- Provide American Heart Association guideline for appropriate telemetry use.
- Target areas that typically overuse telemetry (e.g., medical, surgical, and intermediate care units).

Use discontinuation criteria

- Have a multi-disciplinary team develop criteria.
- Criteria examples:
 - Stable rhythm without the presence of significant changes in 24 hours
 - Negative troponins (cardiac enzymes) x 2, no ST-segment changes for 24 hours, no chest pain

Communicate

- Every day, ask if telemetry is still needed.
- Use a clinical decision tool to help guide discontinuation.

Hardwire guidelines

- Use order sets to eliminate open telemetry time frames.
- Require provider to give a clinical indication.
- Make telemetry part of the patient's status.



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