

Appendix E: Weaning Guidelines for Haloperidol (Haldol)

Weaning after acute and brief episode of delirium (ICDSC 0-1 < 72 hours from onset of haloperidol)

- Reduce dose of regular haloperidol to maintain ICDSC 0-1 and VAMAAS 3
- Begin weaning to off when patient's ICDSC is 0-1 and VAMAAS is 3 for > 24 hours (and not requiring PRN boluses)
- Wean total daily dose by 25% per day until off (divided reduction of regular dose haloperidol; consider higher HS dose)
- If patient exhibits symptoms of delirium during dose reduction:
 - Notify physician to review Appendix A and B for treatable causes
 - Ensure Appendix C is implemented
 - Return to previous dose when patient was symptom free

Weaning if > 72 hours of uncontrolled delirium

- Begin weaning to off when patient's ICDSC is 0-1 and VAMAAS is 3 for > 48 hours
- Wean total daily dose by 25% Q 2 days until off (divided reduction of regular dose haloperidol; consider higher HS dose)
- If patient exhibits symptoms of delirium during dose reduction:
 - Notify physician to review Appendix A and B for treatable causes
 - Ensure Appendix C is implemented