

CLINICAL PATHWAY:

Agitation

Appendix D: Medication Considerations for Comorbid Mental Health Conditions

THIS PATHWAY
SERVES AS A GUIDE
AND DOES NOT
REPLACE CLINICAL
JUDGMENT.

AUTISM/ DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES	ANXIETY/TRAUMA	MANIA/PSYCHOSIS	ODD/CONDUCT DISORDER	ADHD	SUBSTANCE USE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess for underlying cause of agitation (Am I hungry? In pain? Physical or emotional trigger?) <p>Medications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diphenhydramine may cause disinhibition. Lorazepam could possibly disinhibit also, but is a safe 1st line medication Avoid IM if possible for additional sensory assault Trial an extra dose of home medication, such as Risperidone <i>OR</i> ODT Olanzapine (Zyprexa) is a good 1st or 2nd line medication. Remember that Olanzapine needs to be separated from Ativan by minimum of 1 hour. <p>Other Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PO Clonidine 	<p>Medications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PO hydroxyzine (Vistaril, Atarax) PO Lorazepam is also helpful anxiolytic 	<p>Medications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider extra dose of home medication <p>First Line</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ODT Olanzapine (Zyprexa) <i>OR</i> PO Lorazepam <p>Second Line</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IM Haloperidol combined with IM Diphenhydramine 	<p>Medications</p> <p>First Line</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PO Lorazepam <i>OR</i> ODT Olanzapine (Zyprexa) <p>Second Line</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IM Lorazepam <i>OR</i> IM Olanzapine (Zyprexa) 	<p>Medications</p> <p>First Line</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PO Clonidine <i>OR</i> PO Lorazepam <p>Second Line</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IM Lorazepam <i>OR</i> IM Diphenhydramine 	<p>Medications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ETOH or Benzodiazepine Intoxication: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Haloperidol with IM Diphenhydramine PCP or Stimulant intoxication: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lorazepam +/- Haloperidol with Diphenhydramine Synthetic Cannabinoids or Cathinones (bath salts): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lorazepam +/- Haloperidol with Diphenhydramine



RETURN TO
THE BEGINNING



CONTACTS: CATHERINE SULLIVAN, MD | CRISTIN MCDERMOTT, MD

LAST UPDATED: 06.30.23

