



GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF PLATELET INHIBITORS IF CARDIAC SURGERY IS REQUIRED

GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF ABCIXIMAB:

- To minimize the number of patients going to surgery after receiving abciximab, do not give abciximab before the patient is taken to the cardiac catheterization laboratory.
- If a high-risk intervention is performed, do use abciximab.
- See "Guidelines for the use of abciximab" for detailed information.

GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF TIROFIBAN:

- For potent antiplatelet therapy, tirofiban is the **preferred** agent before determining if the patient needs to proceed to cardiac surgery.
- See "Guidelines for the use of tirofiban" for detailed information.

GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF CLOPIDOGREL:

- To minimize the number of patients going to surgery after receiving clopidogrel, do not pre-load any patient with clopidogrel before taking the patient to the cardiac catheterization laboratory.
- See "Guidelines for the use of clopidogrel" for detailed information.

Management of a Patient Receiving Abciximab if Cardiac Surgery is Required ***(Duration of platelet inhibition is 24-48 hours)***

1. Discontinue abciximab 48 hours prior to surgery if possible.
2. If surgery is required sooner:
 - Do not give full dose heparin, as abciximab potentiates it.
 - Prior to heparinizing for CP bypass, draw ACT and give a titrated dose of heparin to obtain ACT of 400-500 seconds.
 - Transfuse two 8-packs of platelets as the patient is coming off pump.
 - Perform further platelet transfusions only as required to control bleeding.

Management of a Patient Receiving Tirofiban if Cardiac Surgery is Required ***(Duration of platelet inhibition is 4-8 hours)***

1. Discontinue tirofiban 3-6 hours prior to surgery or as close to that time as possible.
2. If surgery is required sooner, consider dialysis if < 4 hours since discontinuing tirofiban if clinically needed.
3. Perform platelet transfusions only as required to control bleeding after surgery.

Management of a Patient Receiving Clopidogrel if Cardiac Surgery is Required ***(Duration of platelet inhibition is 7-10 days)***

1. Discontinue clopidogrel at least 48 hours, preferably 7-10 days, prior to surgery.
2. If surgery is required sooner, consider charcoal dialysis within 36 hours of discontinuation of clopidogrel if clinically needed for bleeding.
3. Perform platelet transfusions only as required to control bleeding after surgery.

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Questions, Assistance, or Referrals:

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