Mercy EMS Education

Clinical Operations



Sept 21, 2026

Ofirmev (IV Acetaminophen)

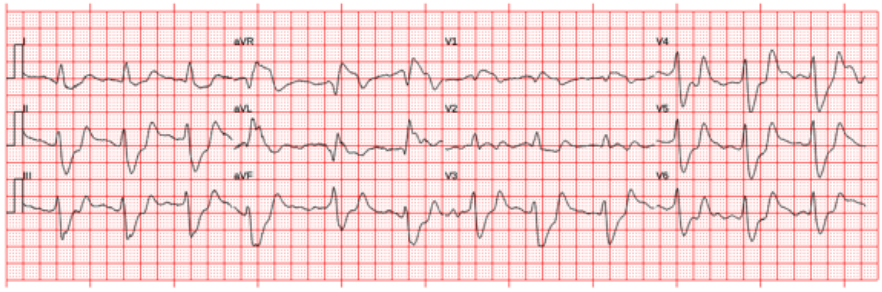
- Ofirmev is not a rapid-onset medication. Its onset of action is approximately **15 minutes**, making it less suitable for the immediate management of acute pain.
- For patients experiencing acute pain or acute exacerbations of chronic pain, rapid-acting opioid analgesics remain the preferred first-line treatment when clinically appropriate.
- IV acetaminophen should only be administered once per patient encounter.
- Ofirmev has been administered 144 times during the past six weeks. A review of recent cases indicates that a significant number of these uses may not have met appropriate clinical indications. Please ensure administration is consistent with protocol and clinical guidance.
- There is no clinical evidence of a single dose of opioids from EMS or ED contributing to addiction or addictive behavior.

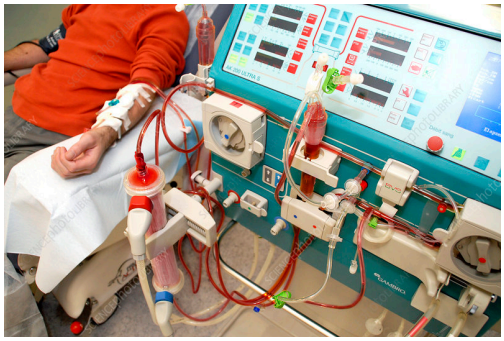
Missouri Scope of Practice Update

- With Missouri's adoption of the National EMS Scope of Practice (2019 Version 2), questions have arisen regarding the use of supraglottic airway devices by EMTs. The current scope document does not specifically list supraglottic airway placement within the EMT-B scope of practice. (This does not apply to Oklahoma providers.)
- The 2007 National EMS Scope of Practice also did not specifically identify supraglottic airway placement as an EMT-B procedure.
- We are currently in discussions with the Board of EMS and the state attorney for their interpretation of the statute. Additional guidance will be provided as further clarification becomes available.

Dialysis patients with wide QRS could develop cardiac arrest

- Consider early bicarb and calcium (both have a very low side effect or contraindication).





Abnormal Vital Signs and ALS Involvement

- Abnormal vital signs warrant ALS involvement.
- Patients with significant hypertension, particularly those with a systolic blood pressure greater than 200 mmHg, should be assessed and attended by the ALS provider whenever one is available on scene.
- Do not be fooled by “this is my normal” = abnormal is abnormal.