# Sotalol Initiation and Dosage Titration Guideline

**University Health System**

*Initiation of Therapy Restricted to Cardiology Faculty and Fellows*

## 1. Patient must be placed on telemetry

## 2. Baseline EKG

## 3. Basic metabolic profile (BMP) daily in AM

## 4. Magnesium daily in AM

## 5. Dosing

### a. **For Atrial Fibrillation:**
- If QTc (corrected QT) > 450 msec, DO NOT START sotalol
- Recommended initial dose is 80 mg if QTc < 450 msec, adjusted for renal function:
  - CrCl > 60 mL/min: start 80 mg PO q 12h
  - CrCl 40 – 60 mL/min: start 80 mg PO q 24h
  - CrCl < 40 mL/min: sotalol is contraindicated for atrial fibrillation
- Dose may be titrated up to 120 mg q 12h during hospitalization if CrCl > 60 mL/min and QTc < 500 msec

### b. **For Ventricular Arrhythmias:**
- Recommended initial dose is 80 mg PO q 12h if CrCl > 60mL/min
- Dose may be increased in increments of 80 mg per day every 3 days, if QTc < 500 msec
- Continually monitor patients until steady state blood levels are achieved
- In most patients, therapeutic response is obtained at total daily dose of 160 to 320 mg/day, given in 2 or 3 divided doses (given long terminal elimination half-life of sotalol, dosing more frequently than 2 times a day is usually not necessary)
- Oral doses as high as 480 to 640 mg/day have been utilized in patients with refractory life-threatening arrhythmias
- Adjustment for renal function:
  - CrCl > 60mL/min: dosing interval q 12h
  - CrCl 30 – 59 mL/min: dosing interval q 24h
  - CrCl 10 – 29 mL/min: dosing interval q 36 - 48h
  - CrCl < 10 mL/min: dose should be individualized

## 6. EKG 2 hours post-sotalol dose X 5 doses

## 7. If QTc > 500 msec (> 550 msec for wide QRS) or > 15% of baseline after first dose, stop sotalol and notify physician

## 8. If QTc > 500 msec (> 550 msec for wide QRS) any time after first dose, hold sotalol and notify physician

## 9. Electrolyte replacement protocol to keep potassium ≥ 4 mmol/L and magnesium ≥ 2 mg/dL

## 10. Pharmacy to verify drug interactions and other QT-prolonging medications

### References:


Approved by UHS Pharmacy & Therapeutics Cardiovascular Subcommittee: 4/2018
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