Weaning Phase

**DEFINITION:**
When weaning from sedative and analgesic agents is required.
Eg. Imminent PICU discharge, no longer ventilated.

**GOALS:**
- Sedation: SBS 0 to +3
- Pain: MAPS 0 to 3
- Withdrawal: <10

10% of original dose means 10% of dose when first reduction made.

START HERE

- What has the duration of medication usage been?
  - < 5 days
  - 5 - 10 days
  - > 10 days

**Commence rapid wean.**
Reduce original oral total daily dose by 50% for 24 hrs then discontinue.

Please notify PICU Pharmacist

**Commence 5 day wean.**
Reduce original oral total daily dose by 20% every 24 hrs.

Please notify PICU Pharmacist

**Commence 10 day wean.**
Reduce original oral total daily dose by 20% every 48 hours.

Please notify PICU Pharmacist

- Withdrawal assessment score < 10?
  - Yes
    - Continue to monitor and assess SBS, MAPS and WAS at least q4h
  - No
    - *Return to previous dose and hold wean for 24 hrs.*
    - *Monitor and assess WAS q2h.*
    - *After 24 hrs, wean medication by 10% q24h when score < 10.*

**Weaning Tips**
- The above strategies offer approximate timeframes for weaning.
- A total daily dose can be reduced by changing the dose AND/or OR the frequency
- The minimum dose of Methadone at any time SHOULD NOT be below 0.5mg (0.1mls)

Example of 5 day wean: (TDD = Total daily dose)
Day 1: TDD 50mg - 12.5mg q6h
Day 2: TDD 40mg - 10mg q6h
Day 3: TDD 30mg - 10mg q.d.
Day 4: TDD 20mg - 10mg b.d.
Day 5: TDD 10mg - 5mg bd OR 10mg daily

Consider adjunctive drugs and non pharmacological therapy.