

1. Diet:  NPO  Formula/breast  As tolerated  Clear liquids  Other\_\_\_\_\_

2. AP/Lateral Neck X-ray:  Indicated in atypical cases such as child > age 6, suspected foreign body or unresponsive to therapy

3. Respiratory: Use croup score (adding scores of each symptom below)

- Level of consciousness: Normal, including sleep = 0; disoriented = 5
- Cyanosis: None = 0; with agitation = 4; at rest = 5
- Stridor: None = 0; with agitation = 1; at rest = 2
- Air entry: Normal = 0; decreased = 1; markedly decreased = 2
- Retractions: None = 0; mild = 1; moderate = 2; severe = 3

**Mild croup** is defined by a Westley croup score of  $\leq 2$ .

**Moderate croup** is defined by a Westley croup score of 3 to 7.

**Severe croup** is defined by a Westley croup score of  $\geq 8$

4. Medications:

Physician will document (above) whether patient has mild/moderate/severe croup and order croup protocol

Nurse will administer Dexamethasone \_\_\_\_\_ mg/kg po/IM (circle route) to a maximum dose of 10 mg (dose range in studies 0.15-0.6 mg/kg)

Nurse will administer Nebulized epinephrine ( epinephrine 1:1000), 0.5 ml/kg per dose (maximum of 5 ml) , diluted if necessary to 3 ml total volume with normal saline for moderate to severe croup.

5. **Discharge:**

Patients receiving epinephrine should be considered for observation for 3-4 hours for rebound symptoms. Physician will reassess and make decision regarding discharge time frame.

6. Nursing Documentation

CRITERIA	DATE TIME INITIAL	Westley Croup Score							
		Pre Tx	Post Tx	30 min	1 hour	90 min	2 hours	2.5 hrs	3 hours
Air Entry	2=sev. decr 1=mild dec 0=normal								
Stridor	2=at rest 1=with agitat 0=none								
Retractions	3=severe 2=mod 1=mild 0=none								
Cyanosis	5=at rest 4=with agitat 0=none								
LOC	5=disorient. 0=normal								

7. Consults:

Respiratory Therapist  Other \_\_\_\_\_

REASON: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature

Print name

Date/Time