Morphine IV Shortage (Updated 10/28/2025)

❑ Situation

- Supply of IV Morphine 2 mg and 4 mg vials is now on shortage
- Utilization of IV formulation exceeds supply

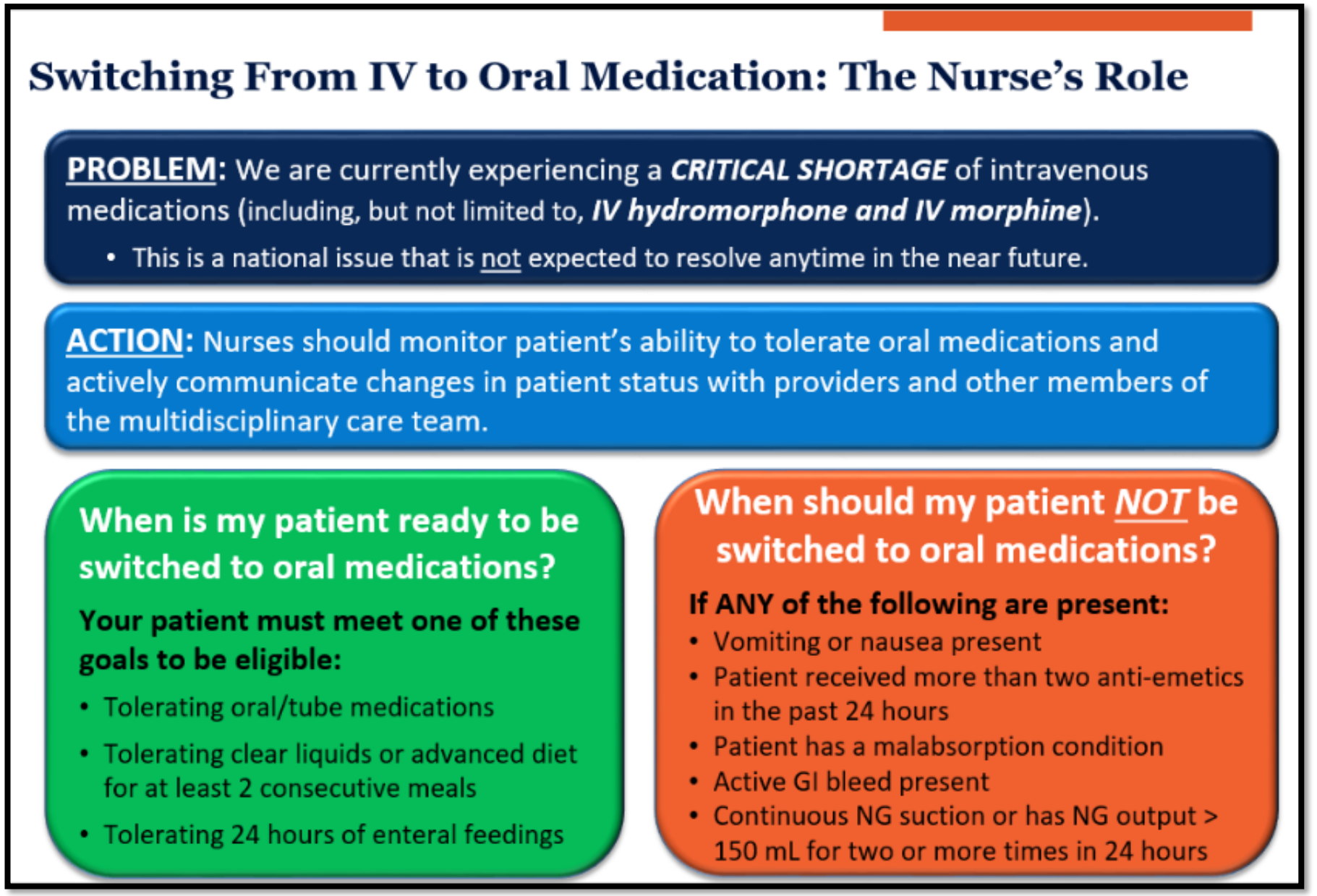
❑ Background/Assessment

- Manufacture has reported release date of late November ~ early December
- Procurement of essential excipients unavailable in the manufacturing process

❑ Recommendation

- **Consider aggressive IV to PO transition in all patients receiving IV morphine in eligible patients**
- **Utilize alternative PO pain medications options for any patient able to tolerate oral route**
- IV hydromorphone 0.5 mg and 1 mg syringes supply are not on radar to likely meet shortage
- **Pharmacy will increase our order of oral opiate options, along with IV fentanyl vials**
- Consider consulting Pharmacy for recommendations or assisting in opioid conversions.
- Nursing staff to administer oral opiates if patient is able to tolerate oral administration

Nursing's Huddle Card – IV Pain Medication Shortage



Bedside nurses play a vital role in helping conserve IV pain medications.

Nursing is asked to fully assess patient and administer oral pain medications if the patient is able tolerate in an effort to save IV pain medications for those patients who are unable to swallow.

IV Morphine and IV Dilaudid are on shortage with no specific date of release.

Pharmacist Recommendations – Available for Pharmacist Consult to assist in conversion

Agent	Recommended Dose Equivalents
Fentanyl IV	100 mcg
Morphine IV	10 mg
Morphine PO	30 mg
Hydromorphone IV	1.5 mg
Hydromorphone PO	7.5 mg
Oxycodone PO	20 mg
Hydrocodone PO	30 mg

IV to PO Hydromorphone Conversion	
Parenteral Hydromorphone Dose (IV/IM)	**Oral Opioid Dose**
0.25 mg any frequency	**Oxycodone 5 mg** same frequency (unless shorter than Q4H, then use Q4H)
0.5 mg any frequency	**2 mg Hydromorphone** same frequency (unless shorter than Q4H, then use Q4H)
1 mg any frequency	**4 mg Hydromorphone** same frequency (unless shorter than Q4H, then use Q4H)
2 mg any frequency	**8 mg Hydromorphone** same frequency (unless shorter than Q4H, then use Q4H)

IV to PO Morphine Conversion	
Parenteral Morphine Dose (IV/IM)	**Oral Opioid Dose**
1 mg any frequency	**Oxycodone 5 mg** same frequency (unless shorter than Q4H, then use Q4H)
2 mg any frequency	**7.5 mg Morphine IR** same frequency (unless shorter than Q4H, then use Q4H)
4 mg any frequency	**15 mg Morphine IR** same frequency (unless shorter than Q4H, then use Q4H)
8 mg any frequency	**30 mg Morphine IR** same frequency (unless shorter than Q4H, then use Q4H)

IV to PO Fentanyl Conversion	
Parenteral Fentanyl Dose (IV/IM)	**Oral Opioid Dose***
25 mcg any frequency	**7.5 mg Morphine IR** same frequency (unless shorter than Q4H, then use Q4H)
50 mcg any frequency	**15 mg Morphine IR** same frequency (unless shorter than Q4H, then use Q4H)
75 mcg any frequency	**22.5 mg Morphine IR** same frequency (unless shorter than Q4H, then use Q4H)
100 mcg any frequency	**30 mg Morphine IR** same frequency (unless shorter than Q4H, then use Q4H)
*If morphine allergy listed or contraindication pharmacy will contact MD with suggested oral pain medications.	